

# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XIV, Issue No. 020

TUESDAY JANUARY 20, 2004

www.saipantribune.com 50¢

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Capt. Pierre Piche's wedding ring was not found at the helicopter crash site where he died in Iraq. His body was in a closed casket at his funeral. Sometimes his death does not seem real to his widow, Cherish.

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### Beyond Movies

Ben Affleck is fairly sure the ad campaign for his next movie won't proclaim "Affleck and Lopez, together again." While real-life sweethearts Affleck and Jennifer Lopez co-star in the upcoming "Jersey Girl," their on-screen collaboration won't be a selling point after their colossal bomb "Gigli" last summer.

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# Low turnout for PSS poll



LIBERTY DONES

Gov. Juan N. Babauta stands in the middle of Teacher Representative candidates Ambrose Bennett, right, and James Yangetmai at the entrance of the Multi Purpose Hall in Susupe Monday afternoon. The governor will formally announce today the result of the election.

## Only 28 percent of teachers cast their votes

By LIBERTY DONES  
REPORTER

About 28 percent of the Public School System's 500 full-time teaching staff participated in yesterday's first CNMI-wide election for a teacher representative to the Board of Education.

The two candidates—Ambrose Bennett and James Yangetmai—went to the polling center early to cast their vote. As of 8 o'clock Monday night, Bennett was reportedly leading and is likely to win the election.

As of 5:45pm yesterday, Governor special assistant Galvin Guerrero, who led the conduct of the election at the

Multi-Purpose Hall in Susupe, said 142 voters cast their votes from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

"That's an overall estimate CNMI-wide," said Guerrero. The election was held from 9am to 6pm.

There are some 500 PSS teachers who are eligible to participate in the electoral process, including 40 from Tinian, and

about 40 from Rota.

Meantime, Gov. Juan N. Babauta, who is expected to announce the result of the election this morning on Capitol Hill, dropped by the Multi-Purpose Hall and shook hands with the teachers.

Teacher voters began coming in to the center after their classes—3pm up.

Election Commission staff supervising the poll, headed by Maggie Crisostomo, said that as of 2:30pm, only

See LOW on Page 8

## Over 3,000 signatures gathered for 80-20

A proponent of the initiative seeking the implementation of the 80-20 distribution of revenues among the three senatorial districts disclosed yesterday that over 3,000 signatures have been gathered so far in support of efforts to place the question on the election ballot.

Sen. Pete P. Reyes, one of those vocally pushing for the initiative, said

proponents hope to collect 8,000-10,000 more signatures before the petition can be submitted to the Attorney General's Office.

"The petition has been circulating for months now and at least 50 individuals have been helping me gather all the signatures that we hope to include in the 2005 election. After the review of all the

signatures, the AGO would forward it to the Election Commission," stated Reyes, in an interview with reporters yesterday.

The Saipan senator expressed confidence that the 80-20 initiative will pass all requirements needed to make it to the ballot.

"This is not about punishing Tinian and Rota but justice for Saipan. There is

so much misconception on the objective of the 80-20. Some think it would hurt the services of other agencies. If Tinian and Rota need additional funding, it has to be justified to Saipan. They would submit justification to Saipan so that funding can be made available to them," he explained.

Reyes assured that Saipan would not

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## AGO monitoring fuel prices

By JOHN RAVELO  
REPORTER

The Attorney General's Office yesterday said it is monitoring prices of petroleum products as it vowed to conduct an investigation should it receive complaints of unfair trade practices.

Attorney General Pamela Brown yesterday disclosed that her office has

joined the gasoline price-monitoring project by the Federal Trade Commission, which would monitor fuel prices nationwide.

Shell Marianas Inc. recently raised fuel prices by 7-cents, the first gas price hike reported this year.

Assistant Attorney General Brian Caldwell also disclosed that the AGO has

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## Group lobbies anew for MLK holiday in NMI

By EDITH G. ALEJANDRO  
REPORTER

A group of private citizens reiterated their call yesterday to officially proclaim Jan. 15 as an official holiday in the Northern Marianas in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

The group, which met yesterday at

McDonald's restaurant on Middle Road, disclosed that a draft initiative has already been submitted to the Attorney General's Office for review in hopes that it would be included in the 2005 electoral process.

"The initiative hopes to make this a legal holiday and we hope that it would

See GROUP on Page 8

# Local

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# CUC lab manager, deputy vacate posts

By LIBERTY DONES  
REPORTER

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. officials facing investigation over alleged water data tampering have vacated their positions after their administrative suspension had been lifted since late last year.

Authorities said that Water Laboratory manager Pete Babauta has retired while his deputy manager, Mariano Iglesias, now works for the CUC's water division.

Effective Sept. 1, 2003, Babauta and Iglesias were put on an indefinite leave amid allegations of various compliance violations, including tampering of water test results.

"They have moved out of the Lab, but I don't think they're off the hook yet," said a government official privy to the issue.

This developed even as the Federal Bureau of Investigation continues to conduct its probe on the issue since August last year.

CUC board chairman Herman P. Sablan said the FBI investigation remains pending. "We've not received any report or anything so far."

The FBI looked into the matter after the Division of Environmental Quality threatened to revoke CUC's laboratory's certification after it allegedly found out that the utility firm intentionally concealed the true microbiolo-

gical quality of its drinking water.

The DEQ, which eventually revoked the certification last September, said it found during a surprise inspection that CUC's water sampling records were being tampered to the extent that "data [were] inappropriately modified using 'white-out' and other means to conceal the original information."

The revocation had prompted the CUC to hire a private company, Quality Water, to conduct required test samples on CUC's drinking water.

DEQ said the revocation was based primarily on the following grounds: falsified bacteria data report, invalid

sampling, false reporting, and lack of qualified personnel to oversee the laboratory.

On numerous occasions, DEQ said that CUC samples that were reported to DEQ were not run for bacteria but were reported (to DEQ) as negative.

Again, on numerous occasions, DEQ said that samples were read out before the actual 18 to 24 hours required incubation period "or there was no record of time or incubation or read out time."

Likewise, DEQ said that on

several occasions, samples that came out positive were reported to DEQ as negative.

CUC executive director Lorraine A. Babauta, who is the spouse of the former laboratory manager, earlier said that the CUC committed "human error" in not observing the proper procedure in data correction.

Instead of crossing out, she said, CUC personnel used a correction fluid.

If proven, water data tampering—a federal offense—can result in imprisonment.

The executive director, who has the ultimate command responsibility over the issue, was instructed by the CUC board to issue the adminis-trative suspension against the two officials.

Chairman Sablan said the suspension was proof that CUC is committed to cooperate in addressing the compliance violations cited by DEQ.

"It does not mean that the two men are guilty of the allegations. We just want to settle these things with the concerned agencies," Sablan had said.

## More than 7,000 visit islands with Volume Incentive Program

With Asiana Airlines' increased flights from Seoul, South Korea to Saipan, the number of passengers has increased by more than 7,000.

In cooperation with Asiana Airlines, the Marianas Visitors Authority's Volume Incentive Program was conducted from Sept. to Dec. 2003.

The four-month program was a joint effort created as an incentive strategy for travel agents in South Korea to stimulate sales to this destination.

"The joint campaign between the MVA and Asiana Airlines has clearly benefited our destination by enticing more travel agents to market travel to the CNMI, and resulted in more visitors from the Korean market," said MVA managing director Jonas Ogren.

He added that in line with

marketing objectives for 2004, the MVA will plan more cooperative campaigns with the airlines and travel agents. "We appreciated Asiana Airlines' commitment to the CNMI and for their continued support and efforts to increase passenger lift from Seoul, Korea throughout the years."

The Volume Incentive Program rewarded the 12 top travel agents in Korea who sold the most tickets to the CNMI. The sale of packages to the CNMI exceeded 10 percent and 20 percent as compared with the same period the previous year.

In September, three companies in Korea exceeded the 10 percent quota while one company exceeded the 20 percent quota. In October, three companies exceeded the 10 percent quota, and another three companies

exceeded the 20 percent quota. In November, two companies reached the 10 percent and another three companies reached the 20 percent quota.

These companies will receive advertising support from the MVA for advertising the destination and incentive tickets from the carrier to Saipan for their excellent performance.

The top travel agents for December 2003 will be announced by the MVA at the upcoming Marianas Travel Seminar in Seoul, South Korea on Jan. 28, 2004.

Various media and travel agents-representatives will join MVA and Asiana Airlines to award the December winners and to recognize the top three travel agents for their support of the MVA's marketing programs and PR activities.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS  
CNMI Coral Reef Point-of-Contact Becky Cruz Lizama, right, poses with the honorable mentions from the Oleai Elementary School, who received \$50 each in connection with September 2003's "Save Our Reef" Art Contest. Also in photo are Oleai's office representative, Ms. Cecilia, and honorable mention Randall Abigania of San Antonio Elementary School, inset.

# Art contest winners get cash by surprise

Randall Abigania, a student at the San Antonio Elementary School, did not expect that he would be \$50 richer yesterday when he received a cash prize for participating in the "Save Our Reef Art Drawing Contest" last September.

Abigania intends to deposit the money in his own bank account, according to CNMI Coral Reef Point-of-Contact Becky Cruz Lizama, who said she personally gave the student the prize check.

Lizama said three other elementary students and three more high school students received \$50 each yesterday. The students were among the hundreds that participated in the art contest, which was sponsored by the Office of the Governor and the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Arts Council.

"Originally the CNMI was going to award only the grand prize winners with \$300 each.

But the CNMI was able to source additional funds to award \$50 each to the honorable mentions," Lizama said. The government reportedly gave out the grand prize awards in October last year.

Besides Abigania, the three elementary school students who were named honorable mentions were Karl Roque, Jaynine Parico and Joseph Rangamar. All three are enrolled at the Oleai Elementary School, making school officials elated and proud of their achievements.

For the high school division, the government named three Marianas High School students as honorable mentions: Siri Welch, Joseph Cruz and Sum Lim.

"The honorable mention winners were not aware that they were going to get a prize," Lizama said, adding that the surprise prize monies gave joy to the students who won them.

*(John Ravelo)*

## WEATHER FORECAST

**PICTURE TIME: 1:00 A.M. JANUARY 19, 2004**  
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough and associated low-level wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between 2n and 12n from 136e to 145e...including yap. A near-equatorial trough extends from 1n158e to 3n171e. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found between the equator and a line from 3n151e to 5n158e to 7n165e to 1n168e. This includes Kosrae but is south of Chuuk and Pohnpei. Other small areas of showers are located near 6n169e and 3n175e. An old shear line stretches from 17n180 to 12n166e to south of Guam at 12n145e. Low cloudiness and scattered showers are along and up to 150 miles north of this boundary.

**SAIPAN AND TINIAN**  
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** Northeast at 10-15 mph.

**GUAM AND ROTA**  
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** Northeast at 10-15 mph.

**PALAU**  
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** Northeast 10-15 kt.

**POHNPEI**  
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.  
**Winds:** East at 10 kt.

**YAP AND ULITHI**  
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** Northeast 10-15 kt.

**KOSRAE**  
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.  
**Winds:** East at 10 kt.

**CHUUK**  
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** Northeast at 10 kt.

**MAJURO**  
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** East at 15-20 kt.

CITY	FORECAST	HIGH	LOW
Auckland	Rain	70F (21C)	53F (12C)
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	31F (-1C)	11F (-12C)
Hong Kong	Showers	59F (15C)	52F (11C)
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	82F (28C)	67F (19C)
London, England	Rain	48F (9C)	41F (5C)
Los Angeles	Sunny	68F (20C)	47F (8C)
Manila	Partly Cloudy	86F (30C)	67F (19C)
Melbourne	Sunny	80F (27C)	66F (19C)
Miami	Partly Cloudy	71F (22C)	54F (12C)
New York City	Sunny	26F (-3C)	16F (-9C)
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	41F (5C)	24F (-4C)
Paris	Rain	40F (4C)	29F (-2C)
Pusan	Sunny	40F (4C)	26F (-3C)
Rome	Showers	47F (8C)	35F (2C)
Salem, Oregon	Partly Cloudy	48F (9C)	30F (-1C)
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	58F (14C)	43F (6C)
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	32F (0C)	10F (-12C)
Tokyo, Japan	Rain	52F (11C)	36F (2C)
Washington, DC	Sunny	32F (0C)	20F (-7C)



# Adriano to convene Senate on Jan. 28

Senate President Joaquin G. Adriano is planning to convene his first Senate session as presiding officer of the upper house on Jan. 28, with a list of bills and resolutions on the agenda.

This includes a proposal that aims to set internal guidelines on what exiting Legislature members can and cannot take with them when they transfer or leave their offices.

Adriano, in an interview yesterday, called the bill in the works “urgent.”

“This bill [will guide] members that lost the election from now on or in the future that they cannot take out any equipment, any furniture from any office and transfer it to any department,” said the new Senate president.

Adriano also insisted that exiting members should evacuate their offices 15 days before the inauguration date to give incoming members the chance to settle in before the formal installation.

“If you walk around the [Legislature] building, you will find the chairs and tables on the hallway. You know why? Because members are transferring [furniture] to other offices and I want to see that thing stopped in the next election. The only thing you’re going to be doing is going there with your pen and yourself to work,” he said.

The practice of removing furniture from offices only contributes to more expenditure for the Legislature in that incoming members would have to purchase new ones for their own use.

“And we don’t want to see that. We want to minimize the expenditure for this Legislature. What happens is the next person that comes to work on important matters are instead trying to find chairs, tables. It will be another three months before their offices are completed,” said Adriano.

Although the option is there to introduce a resolution or amend the internal rules of the two house chambers consistent with this recommendation, Adriano is convinced that it would be more effective to enact it into law.

“I think we should put it into law and have a penalty clause that if you do that, the government should forfeit your house or your car to pay for that. Or maybe a fine of \$500,” he suggested. *(Marian A. Maraya)*



Adriano

## Man convicted on assault charges

The Superior Court yesterday convicted a man on assault charges after a jury trial.

A jury declared Francisco Demapan guilty on a count of assault with a dangerous weapon, while acquitting the defendant on two other similar charges.

Associate Judge David Wiseman, meanwhile, decided on the misdemeanor charges, convicting Demapan on a count each of assault and battery and disturbing the peace. The judge acquitted Demapan on two counts each of the two offenses and a riot charge, said Assistant Attorney General Karen Severy.

Demapan attacked one Anthony Benavente Jr. on Saipan sometime in July 2002, when the defendant was just 22 years old.

Severy lauded the jury for its decision convicting Demapan. “I understand how the judge came up with his decision on this. The evidence supported the charges,” she added.

Demapan’s co-defendant in the case, Allen Aldan, had owned up to attacking another victim, Jonathan Benavente.

The criminal charges named Daniel Johnny Jr. as another assault victim. *(John Ravelo)*

## NMC participates in regional GIS program

The Northern Marianas College Community Development Institute is participating in a Geographic Information Systems training program with the Palau Community College and is inviting individuals from different government agencies to try out for the program.

This program, fully funded by a U.S. Department of the Interior grant, is taking place throughout the region and involves all of the community college campuses in Micronesia and American Samoa.

The initial phases of the program include the screening of GIS trainees, orientation of instructor, and conducting the first several courses of the GIS training sequence.

GIS combines layers of information about a place to give anyone a better understanding of that place. The layers of information combined depends on the person’s purpose: finding the best location for a new store, analyzing environmental damage, viewing similar crimes in a city to detect a pattern, or determining what region of the island students come from, among others.

Don Hanser of the Palau Community College or his designee will conduct an initial trainee screening for all potential GIS trainees on Friday, Jan. 23; Monday, Jan. 26; and Tuesday, Jan. 27.

The screening will take place in the computer lab at NMC’s As Terlaje campus, and includes filling out a questionnaire and taking a computer test. The entire process takes from 1-2 hours.

“If there are individuals in your department or agency that you wish to participate in this training program, and feel that they are qualified, please have them contact the college’s Community Development Institute by Jan. 21, 2004 to reserve a spot for them to undergo the screening,” the college said in a statement.

The computer lab will be open for the GIS screening between the following hours:

Date	AM Session	PM Session	Room
Jan. 23	8am-11:30am	1pm-4:30pm	W-2
Jan. 26	8am-9:25am	12:30pm-1:55pm	W-2
Jan. 27	8am-9:25am	12:30pm-1:55pm	W-2

In addition, an instructor screening will also be conducted to identify a qualified individual who will teach the three short-term courses in the sequence that will take place at the campus.

There will be spreadsheet software training class, a database software training class, and a relational database design and development class. These will be short-term courses offered during the evening hours over a 3-week period each.

Anyone who may be qualified and interested in teaching these courses can call NMC on or before Jan. 21, 2004.

The instructor will be sent to Palau for a one-week train-the-trainer session, and will be paid for teaching the courses here on Saipan.

For more information about the GIS training program, the trainee screening, or the instructor screening, call David Attao at 234-5498, extension 1810.

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# Opinion

## Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
Volume XIII, Issue No. 272

Published daily at 2/F Century Insurance Building,  
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

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## EDITORIAL

### Taking AIDS seriously

**T**he World Health Organization this week announced an ambitious plan to treat 3 million AIDS victims in the developing world with antiretroviral drugs by the end of 2005. That's only half of the people who desperately need care, but it's 10 times as many patients as are currently receiving these life-sustaining therapies. In sub-Saharan Africa, in fact, only 50,000 people are getting care. As a result 8,000 people die every day—people who could be saved—and societies are collapsing. The WHO plans to put the emergency response skills it developed in connection with the SARS outbreak to work in countries hard hit by HIV. It aims to deliver, in large volumes, a standardized package of antiretroviral therapies and to train local health-care workers in the delivery of these therapies and related services. The new urgency at WHO is welcome, and its plan seems well conceived and deserving of support.

Treating people with AIDS in Africa is a problem of such magnitude that it can induce a certain paralysis in policymakers, many of whom have fallen back on prevention as the only viable way to stop the pandemic. Yet at a certain point—a point long since past—it becomes immoral to focus narrowly on preventing further infection, as governments are now recognizing. It also doesn't work; people are more likely to come in for testing—and so further the goal of prevention—if they know treatment is available for those in need. Nor are the cost of drugs or the sorry state of Africa's health infrastructure excuses for inaction. Drug prices will continue to drop the more people are treated, and infrastructure will just have to be built.

In this country, President Bush's much-trumpeted global AIDS initiative is mired in a spat over funding levels. Bush has sought a little more than \$2 billion for the first year of his five-year, \$15 billion program, a level that has Democrats and AIDS advocates crying foul. The administration argues that Africa's health infrastructure cannot absorb larger sums of money in the early years of the program, so it means to ramp up spending over time.

The real problem, though, seems to lie not in Africa but in the administration's inability to distribute the money. In fact, at this stage, there is reason for concern about whether even the lower funding levels will actually get spent in the first year.

Washington Post



### Annan lays out AIDS crisis in stark terms

By JOSEPH DOLMAN

**U**.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan behaved in shocking fashion this week. He threw aside 20 years worth of diplomatic argle-bargle and blurted out God's ugly truth about the war against AIDS.

By the United Nations' own standards, he declared, the fight to defeat the virus was failing.

His new tactic of vigorous candor might ultimately come to be regarded as a watershed moment in the long — and so far losing — struggle to beat back one of the worst pandemics in human history.

Gone were the usual hollow pleas to keep hope alive. Gone was the Greek chorus of public-health functionaries, telling us that hard-hit countries were finally beginning to mobilize. Gone were the benign public expressions of faith that rich donor nations would someday wake up and save Africa.

The main theme has abruptly changed.

"We are not on track to begin reducing the scale and impact of the epidemic by 2005," Annan told the General Assembly, in a reference to the United Nations' own timetable. "By that date, we should have cut the number of young people infected by HIV in the worst affected nations. We should have halved the rate at which infants contract HIV. We should have comprehensive care programs in place." But none of this has happened.

What kind of job has the world done to roll back the advance of AIDS?

Peter Piot of UNAIDS told a press conference after Annan's address on Monday that the world's nations in aggregate have earned barely passing marks. No country gets an A, he said.

Richard Feachem of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS was less sanguine. "We spent the first two decades of this pandemic sitting on our hands and doing very little to contain it," he said. But might this really be a watershed?

Yes, it might. That's because Annan and the constellation around him didn't just acknowledge failure on Monday and stalk off the dais. Instead, he coupled his remarks with a refreshingly gutsy plan to provide HIV-slowing drugs to 3 million people, most of them in Africa, within two years.

If 3 million doesn't sound like a big deal on a continent where 30 million human beings live with HIV today, bear in mind that just 4.1 million of Africa's HIV-infected population at the moment need

antiretroviral drug therapy. And bear in mind that just 50,000 people — 1 percent of those who require urgent care now — are getting it.

This could be a very big deal.

But its success depends on the outcome of two gigantic tasks. The first one involves a new role for the World Health Organization. This agency always before has tended to move at a civilized diplomatic pace — also known as slow-motion.

While emergency-room doctors measure their progress in hours, the WHO has tended to gauge the progress of its missions in eons. And, true to its diplomatic underpinnings, it seems to have worked diligently over the years not to pick nasty fights with even the loopy heads of state.

But now, under its new chief, Jong-wook Lee, the WHO is planning to take a more active role in the AIDS fight. Someday soon, it will deliver more than advice. It will deliver antiretroviral drugs. Or at the least it will go into countries and build the infrastructures that will enable local doctors themselves to distribute life-prolonging medicine.

"For the first time," Piot said, "the stars are getting into the right configuration." The cost of antiretroviral drugs has dropped from thousands of dollars a year to about \$300. Doctors have simplified anti-HIV drug regimens from a hopeless mess involving numerous medications and time-sensitive schedules to just one pill a day in some cases. Which means it is now possible for a well-coordinated and generously funded effort to provide HIV treatment fast where it's needed.

Which brings us to the second risk.

Even if the WHO can shake off its bureaucratic lethargy and work more like MASH and less like a state board of medical examiners, what does it plan to do for money? On Monday, the implication was clear. Unless the United States, Europe and an assortment of other nations and private donors come through in a major way, the effort will fail. At the moment, the outcome is anybody's guess.

It's a funny thing. For years, the public-health establishment has urged a policy of honesty and pragmatism. But it never quite leveled with us about its own stark limitations. Now it has. And now we know that, unless we make some changes quick, the daily death toll of about 8,000 lost to AIDS will continue.

Dolman is a columnist and member of Newsday's editorial board.



# UN revival requires US commitment

By **Stephen Schlesinger**  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

“Four times in the modern age,” English historian John Keegan has written, “men have sat down to reorder the world—at the Peace of Westphalia in 1648 after the Thirty Years War, at the Congress of Vienna in 1815 after the Napoleonic Wars, in Paris in 1919 after World War I and in San Francisco in 1945 after World War II.” Such is the march of human history that all of these events—except for the most recent one—collapsed in disagreements that eventually led to renewed war.

The ultimate outcome of the San Francisco Conference is still not known. However, what happened there that produced the last of these grand compacts, the United Nations, has already had an enormous impact over the last six decades. Indeed, the founding of the United Nations in the age of nuclear weaponry—far more sinister circumstances than any faced by those earlier meetings—is affecting the survival or demise of humanity.

The United Nations and its labors have become the background noise of our global age. It is truly ubiquitous. It has overseen 40 years of decolonization around the planet; sent peacekeepers to places such as Cambodia, Cyprus and Sinai; helped end apartheid in South Africa via sanctions. The United Nations’ World Health Organization was critical in eradicating smallpox and is on the verge of stamping out polio; its World Food Program feeds hungry people in Africa; its U.N. Development Program sends more multilateral aid dollars abroad than any nation.

People forget that before the United Nation’s founding, there was no truly functioning international organization (except for the creaky, faltering League of Nations). This meant that for many decades there was no place for nations to go in global crises.

Today, after half a century of the United Nations, few of us are unaware that this aging experiment in global society exists and has given some modicum of hope to the world—despite a dearth of financial resources and the brickbats tossed at it by American politicians. It has become the world’s geopolitical emergency room. The question is whether it can survive.

Right-wing demagogues in our land have so unremittingly denigrated the organization for so long—calling it bloated, anti-American, a body that wastes time on speechmaking, abdicates its responsibilities and remains out of touch—that leading members of the Senate now routinely dismiss its importance and argue that it unnecessarily limits our sovereignty.

Furthermore, unilateralism is back in fashion. The Bush administration, after the attacks of Sept. 11, has promulgated a doctrine of preventive war that allows the United States to go into battle whenever it decides against whomever it wishes, regardless of whether there is a legitimate provocation. Recently one of Bush’s hard-line appointees, Richard Perle, publicly derided the United Nations as being as ineffectual as the League of Nations. And last spring, the United States brazenly bypassed the U.N. Security Council to invade Iraq, relying on its pre-emptive doctrine. Tuesday, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said this crisis was a “fork in the road” for the organization, as decisive as the United Nations’ founding.

The sad fact is that our country would probably not pass the same U.N. Charter today that the U.S. Senate ratified by an overwhelming vote, 89-2, in 1945. Even putting aside its lone-cowboy maneuvers, if Washington had wanted to reinvent the United Nations it would have been virtually impossible to persuade the 191 nations of the world again to draft a charter for the security of the Earth because of the sheer number of countries and the profusion of political differences. (Originally, the organization had 50 members.)

As we look back on the United Nations’ creation, we should realize how fortunate we were to get it in the first place. It took a grand vision, formidable planning and brilliant political leadership from two American presidents—Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman—to turn the organization into reality. Having endured the most calamitous war in history, this World War II generation extracted from the human propensity for devastation the right lesson for our time.

If we are to revive the role of the United Nations today as a peacemaker and security guarantor, the United States, as the only superpower on the planet, must again commit itself to the organization. President Bush himself has slowly come to this realization in the Iraq crisis. He is now seeking to reinvolve our fate with the United Nations because it offers political legitimacy for the American occupation of Iraq. And beyond Iraq, the United Nations bestows cover for various other U.S. global missions, allowing Washington to save taxpayers’ dollars and the lives of its soldiers.

Instead of taking on international ventures alone, we are able to share the burdens of the work to stop bloodshed, reconstruct societies, police conflicts, train armies, provide legal frameworks, uphold governance standards and promote human rights. The creation of the United Nations is as timely now as it was 58 years ago.

*Schlesinger is the director of the World Policy Institute at the New School University and author of “Act of Creation: The Founding of the United Nations.”*

# Bush gambled big—and lost

What a difference a year makes. On Sept. 12, 2002, President Bush traveled to the United Nations and declared that the world body would be “irrelevant” if it didn’t jump on his war bandwagon. The United Nations said “no,” the war started, and yet Bush went back anyway, asking the suddenly relevant United Nations for help.

Why did he do it? Easy. He’s in big trouble. According to a new Gallup Poll, his approval/disapproval rating is 50/47. Indeed, he loses in head-to-head match-ups with both Wesley Clark and John Kerry—who, perhaps not coincidentally, are the two candidates in the race who went off to fight in Vietnam, back in the days when baby boomers had to decide whether to risk everything for their country.

Bush is in trouble because he gambled, gambled big—and lost. He overplayed his war cards.

After 9/11, the world rallied to America’s side. Foreigners laid wreaths and lighted candles in front of U.S. embassies; the French newspaper Le Monde published a front-page editorial headlined, “We are all Americans.” The German foreign minister, a member of the Green Party, sat in the Oval Office, wearing red, white and blue ribbons, and offered “unlimited solidarity.” NATO mobilized for America. The United Nations condemned the 9/11 attack and endorsed American action against the terrorists.

Within weeks, the Taliban and al-Qaida were gone from power in Afghanistan. If Bush had stopped there, he could have seized the moment to build a new world order based on collective defense against terrorism, a global alliance of countries wanting their big-city skylines to remain intact. And 90 percent of the countries in the world would have clamored to join, isolating the true rogues.

But instead, he went down a different path. Spurning the multilateral approach that worked in Afghanistan—and still works, as measured by the polynational contingent of troops pulling peacekeeping duty to this day—he decided that the United States would go after Iraq, with or without the world. His neoconservative advisers and propagandists convinced him that he was another Winston Churchill, destined for world-historical greatness—if he just followed their unilateral-war guidance.

So the Texan spent 2002 campaigning for a fight with Iraq. He gained support in the United States, even as he lost it around the world. Muslim allies such as Turkey peeled away. The U.N.

By **JAMES P. PINKERTON**  
Special to Newsday

*Pinkerton is a Newsday columnist.*



Security Council opposed him; he couldn’t even get the vote of his “friend,” Russian chief Vladimir Putin. Parenthetically, one must note with wonder that Bush has never figured out that the ex-KGB man has been playing him like a balalaika. It can be said that no president has been so trusting of the Russians since Franklin D. Roosevelt clinked glasses with Josef Stalin during World War II.

And then of course, besotted with speechwriter-generated “moral clarity,” Bush went to war anyway. The plan was to catch or kill Saddam Hussein, expose the weapons of mass destruction and get out clean. By now, the United States was supposed to have maybe 30,000 troops overseeing happy Iraqis electing a pro-American government and paying for their own reconstruction with oil money.

None of those optimistic scenarios has come true. The president’s latest rationale is that the war was fought to secure human rights in Iraq. His hard-core supporters have fallen loyally into line—although curiously, most opposed helping Liberia, and none demand action against mass slaughter in Congo.

And Bush now has enemies on the right, too. Many of the neoconservatives who urged him into Iraq are now urging him to invade Syria and/or Iran—and making no secret of their disappointment in his not heeding them. Neo-hawk Mark Helprin, for example, writing in the Claremont Review of Books, dismisses Bush’s entire Middle East policy as “ill-conceived” in its Iraq-only focus.

That’s what happens when a big mission fails. The opponents get close for the haymaker, and Machiavellian supporters get out of the way. And incidentally, he won’t get much out of the United Nations.

Bush might still hunker down at home, play to his base and win re-election. But his foreign policy “vision” has been shattered. The pieces that once reflected his own vain posturing are strewn across America. They are drenched in blood but, of course, it’s not Bush’s.

# A new disciplined day in America

TEN - HUT!  
Location: Campaign HQ of Gen. Wesley K. Clark.  
Time: 0500 Hours.  
Columnist reporting for interview, sir.

At ease, son.  
Request permission to interview the general, sir.  
Permission granted. Smoke ‘em if you got ‘em.  
Thank you, sir. First question: What do you think is the biggest problem facing the country today?

We’re soft, that’s what wrong with us. We have no discipline. We’ve gotten flabby and lazy.  
So what would you do about that, general?  
Do about it? I’ll tell you what I’ll do about it — boot camp. Boot camp?

Twelve weeks, mandatory for every man, woman and child, KP, calisthenics, 25-mile hikes. We’ll turn these puke civilians into citizens this country can be proud of.

Do you think people would go along with that, general?  
Stupid question, son. Drop down and give me 25 pushups. Whew! Next question . . . whew! . . . homeland security . . . whew!

Homeland security! We got people shipping themselves around the country in crates. We got news organizations smuggling radioactive material all over the place undetected. Disney World has tighter security than we do.

How would you rectify that, general?  
First, we establish a perimeter, dig some foxholes, string some barbed wire. Then we make everyone ages 18-55 pull guard duty. Finally, we create a national password—blue mambo. You don’t know the password, you don’t get in.

By **JIM SHEA**  
The Hartford Courant

*Shea is a columnist for The Hartford Courant.*



General, what would you do about the growing divide among the classes?

There are no classes in this man’s America. There are officers, and there are enlisted personnel. And everyone will know who’s who by their uniform.

Uniform?  
Khakis and dress whites; Hawaiian shirts if you’re on R&R. If you are elected . . .

If, son? There’s no if in this man’s America. Drop down and give me another 25.

Whew! When you are . . . whew! . . . elected . . . whew! . . . how will you deal with a Republican controlled Congress?

Good, question, son, good question.

Thank God.

I’ll tell you how I’ll deal with Congress. First, I’ll give them a chance to surrender.

Surrender? And if they don’t?

Then we attack, launch Operation Gasbag.

You’d attack Congress?

Darn straight, although I’d get the United Nations behind me first.

## Saipan Tribune

CHNM'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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# Hazard pay included in CUC basic salary

By LIBERTY DONES  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board of directors has approved the recommendation that would incorporate hazard and night differential pay in its employees' basic pay.

Based on the report submitted by its off-island consultant, Fox Lawson and Associates, the CUC board agreed that "hazardous working conditions are already considered when determining the pay levels for jobs."

Typhoon and on-call pay will continue to be given on top of the basic pay.

The CUC was earlier cited by the Office of the Public Auditor for applying

varying rates for hazard and on-call pays. For instance, the CUC's hazard pay ranges from 10-25 percent of the base salary.

The OPA earlier disclosed that almost 18 percent of CUC's personnel are receiving on-call pay, which is not addressed in its interim Personnel Manual. The OPA said that CUC's manual does not address such pay or explain who should receive it and how it should be computed.

On housing allowance, FLA agreed with CUC's decision to stop it. FLA said only about 25 percent of the utility organizations surveyed in the U.S. mainland and the Pacific offer additional payments for housing.

Yet, FLA noted that while CUC has

removed the housing allowance for its contract workers, it should consider the cost of relocating during salary negotiations. In fact, FLA said that "housing allowance should be included with the incumbent's base salary and should not be a separate pay item."

Some 40 CUC nonresident personnel, mostly in the power generation division, lost their housing allowance middle of 2003.

FLA reported that overall, CUC salaries are 1 percent below the overall market; 13.7 percent below the mainland market, and 15.1 percent above the Pacific market.

Fox Lawson compared CUC salaries with 21 other agencies from the mainland and the Pacific.

## LOW

From Page 1

seven voters had cast their votes.

Bennett, who runs under the newly established Teacher Representative Committee, said that he was the first one to vote yesterday. He said he did not go to work yesterday to observe the Martin Luther King holiday.

"It's a personal call. Whenever I sign an employment contract, I negotiate for this off. I don't really work during MLK's day," he said.

Bennett had brought posters to the center but he was asked not to display them within the premises as it would violate regular election campaign rules.

Election officials said that campaign materials can be displayed 100 feet away from the building.

Yangetmai, the candidate fielded by the Association of Commonwealth Teachers, visited the center in the morning and came back in the afternoon after his class to cast his vote. He was the 11<sup>th</sup> voter.

"I voted for Ambrose," he declared afterwards.

Yangetmai said he did not really go out to campaign for himself. "I only count on the people who know me," he said.

Both candidates have expressed willingness to accept the teachers' decision.

"We thank the teachers for taking time to come here and participate. We really appreciate it. Whatever they decided on today, that's it," they said.

Bennett and Yangetmai earlier said that they would unite and form only one group of teachers after the election.

The candidates agreed that whoever loses will recommend to the teachers

they represent to join the winning group.

In related developments, a teacher aide from Hopwood Junior High School came to the center to cast her vote but was disappointed to learn that she was not an eligible voter.

"I want to participate because I want to be counted. Who's going to fight for us if we have problems? Why are we being left out?" Julie Guerrero asked the polling staff.

Galvin Guerrero said he would bring up her issue to concerned parties for necessary action.

Yesterday's election was sponsored by the Governor's Office, which had intervened to bring to rest the dilemma in the selection or appointment of a BOE teacher representative from PSS.

The BOE non-voting seat for PSS teachers has been vacant since



Local residents gather for a lunch Monday to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. day. The group, which includes Ambrose Bennett, Sam and Dr. John Joyner, aims to submit a petition declaring MLK day a holiday in the CNMI. The U.S. Congress passed a law making the third Monday of January in honor of Dr. King's Jan. 15 birthday. Among those in yesterday's gathering were Veterans Affairs director Frank Cepeda, Dr. Muhammad Ashraff, Humanities Council director Isaac Magofna, friends, and family members.

## GROUP

From Page 1

not affect any other holidays unless the Legislature deems to do so," said group member Ambrose Bennett.

Once approved by the AGO, Bennett said the initiative would be sent to the Legislature and would later be voted on in the 2005 general election. An initiative would need to obtain a two-third vote of all registered CNMI voters to pass.

Since almost all offices are also closed in observance of Dr. King's birthday, the group hopes to get the recognition that King's birthday deserves.

"This is a national holiday and we hope to get official recognition that would allow us to officially celebrate and hold a ceremony to express our appreciation to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," said another member, John Joyner.

The group stressed that even if the

CNMI government operates during King's birthday, offices that hope to conduct business with other agencies in the mainland U.S. and Guam could not do so, since these states are celebrating King's day.

The group added that advocates of Dr. King have been lobbying for the recognition that he deserves on Saipan for the last 15 years yet no official action has been made yet, apart from the earlier pronouncements of several legislators' willingness to support it.

Supporting the initiative were Sen. Pete Reyes and Veterans Affairs Office director Frank Cepeda, their spouses and other supporters on Saipan.

According to Reyes, instead of celebrating Columbus Day, the CNMI should hold a ceremony to recognize Dr. King, who had made tremendous changes on the lives of minorities during the 1960s.

"This is not just about African-Americans; Dr. King has worked for the

betterment of diverse ethnic groups. Why do we have to celebrate Columbus Day when Columbus had not made any contributions to the CNMI?" asked Reyes.

Reyes had authored Senate Bill 13-117 in the 13<sup>th</sup> Legislature in hopes of honoring Dr. King by recognizing his birthday as a holiday. The bill had proposed to replace the local observance of Columbus Day with Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

The group said that it represents the multi-ethnic groups in the CNMI and should not be regarded as an issue for African-Americans only.

Dr. King's birthday, Jan. 15, is a U.S. national holiday. It was on Jan. 20, 1986 when the nation first celebrated King's birthday as a holiday. Although proclaimed a national holiday, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day is not considered an official holiday in the Commonwealth.

# Man allegedly assaults another with a toy gun

A 31-year-old man lodged a complaint of assault with a dangerous weapon against a man who allegedly threatened him with a toy gun during an incident inside the Salt & Pepper Restaurant in La Fiesta Mall.

Department of Public Safety spokesperson Sgt. Tom Blas Jr. said Robert Sismaet Riel, 36, was charged with disturbing the peace and assault with a dangerous weapon. The suspect was arrested and detained at the Division of Corrections in Susupe.

Investigators disclosed that around 8:20pm Saturday, the alleged victim, Samson Rojo Tan, and his co-worker where talking when the suspect passed by.

According to the victim, when Riel passed by, he greeted the suspect, who allegedly suddenly attacked him.

Surprised by the incident, Tan and his co-worker ran into the kitchen of the restaurant to avoid further confrontation.

Shortly after the incident, the suspect entered the room and reportedly pointed a handgun at the victim, mouthing expletives. "The suspect also threatened to kill the victim," the report added.

Tan also disclosed that the same suspect had threatened him with a knife in a previous incident. He immediately reported the incident to the management of the establishment.

Responding police officers arrested Riel and filed a formal complaint against him. Investigators also recovered the alleged handgun that the suspect used to threaten the victim. The gun, however, turned out to be a toy gun. *(Edith G. Alejandro)*

## AGO

From Page 1

received over the weekend an email letter to Brown purportedly coming from a certain Public Interest Research Group.

In the letter, the group, which claims to be an independent watchdog, is accusing Shell and Mobil Oil company of price gouging and profiteering in the CNMI since two years ago. The letter demanded that the AGO compel Shell and Mobil to justify the fuel price increases they have made in the last two years.

Caldwell said, however, that the AGO has yet to verify the actual existence of the group. But he added that the AGO has the power to conduct an investigation should there be a legal basis to believe that the oil firms have committed deceptive and unfair practices.

"We're watching the situation closely. If the price of gas continues [to increase], it may well warrant an investigation," Caldwell said. At this point, however, he said the AGO couldn't determine yet if the oil firms have engaged in price gouging.

The AGO advised oil consumers to submit any complaint in writing and to specify the name and location of the gas station, gasoline grade, price and the date the price was observed.

The AGO, in a media statement, also said it would forward to the FTC information on gas prices based on consumer complaints.

"This information will help the FTC gain a better picture of national gas

pricing trends and will be used in addition to its daily review of average retail gasoline prices in 360 cities, and weekly review of reports from the U.S. Department of Energy's gasoline price hotline," the media release stated.

"If the FTC notices any anomalies in the price of gas within the CNMI, it will notify the AGO so that appropriate action may be taken," it added.

The AGO said complaints could be sent by email to [attorneygeneral@saipan.com](mailto:attorneygeneral@saipan.com) or in writing to this address: Office of the Attorney General-Civil Division, Caller Box 10007, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP96950.

Shell and Mobil's comments on the issue have yet to be obtained. Earlier, though, Shell Marianas president Phil Stalker said market forces in Singapore triggered the increase in pump prices on Guam and Saipan, citing a combination of "extremely strong demand" from Japan and China and "tight supply" as factors pushing prices of refined gasoline products.

On Guam, Stalker said Shell's competitors have also raised fuel prices recently. There was no reported increase yet on Mobil's gas prices on Saipan.

Shell gas stations on Saipan pegged retail prices of regular and premium gasoline at \$2.109 and \$2.209 per gallon, respectively, before the 7-cent hike. According to Shell, the price increase applies to all forms of gasoline and diesel fuel on Saipan and Guam.

Stalker also assured that Shell would roll back fuel prices when market conditions improve and ex-refinery prices ease.

## OVER

From Page 1

insensitive to the needs of the either Rota or Tinian, specifically citing the assistance Saipan offered to Rota in the aftermath of typhoon Pongsona.

The petition that is circulating seeks to amend Public Law 3-11 to reflect that 80 percent of all revenue generated within a senatorial district stay within and be appropriated by that senatorial district. The rest of the 20 percent would be placed on the general fund for Commonwealth-wide use.

Non-Saipan lawmakers have previously expressed skepticism over the initiative's chances of making it, citing the large number of votes needed to achieve this effort.

The petition proposes that 80 percent of each senatorial district's collected revenues remain within its own local coffers while 20 percent will be directed to the general fund.

It supposedly seeks to empower each senatorial district to live within its own means, amid complaints by Saipan legislators that appropriation urgently needed for Saipan is often held hostage by Rota and Tinian.

"This initiative, if passed by the voters, is a strong message that each senatorial district should live within its means...this is to show and enact a general law that the taxpayers of a senatorial district cannot and will not continue to be its brother's keeper to the other greedy senatorial district," part of the petition reads. *(Marian A. Maraya)*



# Labor case filed after settlement dismissed

By **LIBERTY DONES**  
REPORTER

A nonresident worker is now facing deportation following the dismissal of a labor complaint he had filed after signing a settlement agreement with the same employer.

In a recent administrative order, Department of Labor hearing officer Cinta Kaipat dismissed the case filed by Shi Gang Jun against Marianas Garment Manufacturing Inc. for lack of standing to bring up the complaint.

Kaipat said that Shi is no longer considered an employee of the garment firm.

She also pointed out that, when Shi signed a stipulated agreement with the company on Aug. 26, 2003 during a mediation hearing, he waived his right for further claims arising from his former employment.

Under the settlement accord, the complainant also agreed to find a new employer within 45 days or depart the CNMI.

On Oct. 1, 2003, or about two weeks before his transfer

expiration, the complainant filed a new case “regarding the company’s food, drinking water, working environment and lodging situation.”

The complainant asked to be compensated “if the company deducts more payment from me for the food and lodging.”

The hearing officer said the claim is false because no such deduction could occur since he is no longer connected with the company.

“Having considered all factors, the hearing office concludes as a matter of law that the complaint should be dismissed,” said Kaipat.

She said Shi’s transfer deadline officially expired on Oct. 14, 2003.

This means that he has no more valid employment or immigration status that would allow him to remain in the CNMI.

Kaipat referred his case to the Labor enforcement section for voluntary repatriation or deportation proceedings.

His last employer on record, Marianas Garment, will shoulder his repatriation ticket.

## ‘Law imposing one-year deadline on judiciary is unconstitutional’

By **JOHN RAVELO**  
REPORTER

The law requiring the CNMI judiciary to come up with written opinions within one year from the time a case is submitted for decision is unconstitutional, the CNMI Supreme Court said.

Particularly, the High Court assailed the validity of 1 CMC § 3404, saying that the Legislature effectively violated the constitutional mandate of separation of powers among the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government in passing the law.

The provision states: “Decisions of the Supreme Court and the Superior Court which determine a case and decisions which determine a substantial question of procedure or substantive law shall be set forth in written opinions, with the reasons for the decision stated, within one year of submission of

the case for decision, and shall be published in consultation with the Law Revision Commission.

The High Court’s position cropped up in its Jan. 15, 2004, opinion on an appeal regarding a family court case. The case, which the trial court received in 1997, reached the Supreme Court on appeal in 2001.

“This court will not attempt to rewrite a statute or do violence to its plain language to avoid a constitutional infirmity as that is a function of the legislature and not the judiciary,” the High Court said.

Associate Justices Alexandro Castro and John Manglona made the ruling, while Justice Pro Tempore F. Philip Carbullido issued partly dissented to the majority opinion in the appeal.

But Carbullido said that he would not address the application of the one-year time frame in the case because constitutional challenges should be thoroughly examined.

## DPS to hold car restraint checkpoints

The Department of Public Safety’s Traffic Section will be conducting checkpoints on Jan. 21 and 27 as part of its efforts to deter violators of the CNMI Traffic Laws and to ensure that all vehicle occupants and the general public on the highways are protected.

The first Occupant Protection and Child Restraint checkpoint will be on Jan. 21, along Dandan Main Road, at about 9am and will be terminated around 10:15am.

That same day, a second checkpoint will be set up on Beach Road Chalan Laulau at

about 4pm. It will be terminated around 5:15pm.

On Jan. 27, the first set up will be on 2W Tanapag at approximately 9am. It will be terminated at about 10:15am.

The second set up will be on Koblerville Main Road at approximately 2pm and will end at approximately 3:15pm.

The checkpoints will be terminated if it begins to rain.

In addition, traffic officers will be performing aggressive driver interdiction, and laser activities.

For more information, contact, Sgt. Joseph A. Flores at 664-9084-5.



### PAT ON THE BACK

NMI Crime Stoppers officers hand out Crime Stoppers medals and gifts to volunteers after the recent softball tournament in celebration of Crime Stoppers Month. The organization held an appreciation party Saturday at the Minachom Atdao.

EDITH G. ALEJANDRO

BOG



**CHRISTMAS ANYDAY AND EVERYDAY**  
Or so claimed students, teachers, administrators and staff, parents and friends of the San Vicente Elementary School last Wednesday, January 15 when the school finally held its Christmas program that was earlier postponed due to inclement weather. Culminating in a Manger tableau (inset) under the mid-morning sun, the various grades performed synchronized numbers depicting themes from Palau to Europe and points in between.

# DLNR issues reminder anew on hunting of endangered species

Department of Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Tom Pangelinan is reminding the public it is illegal to hunt fruit bats, megapodes and moorhens, and sea turtles, or any other threatened or endangered species, even for subsistence purposes.

Subsistence hunting is defined in the Non-Commercial Fishing and Hunting Regulations as the taking of wildlife to provide sustenance for the taker and the taker’s family when no other reasonable means for providing sustenance is available. Subsistence hunters include permanent residents living on the remote northern islands north of Saipan.

Pangelinan said that, although he has the authority to make an exception in the seasons, harvests and regulations, no exemption will be made for threatened or endangered species.

Threatened and endangered species may never be hunted, except under the terms of a special permit issued by the Director of Fish and Wildlife for scientific purposes, or for propagation in captivity for the purpose of preservation, he said.

Some species included on the threatened and endangered species list are fruit bats (*fanihi*), megapodes (*sasangat*), and moorhens (*pulattat*), and sea turtles (*haggan*). It is illegal to hunt them, or any other threatened or endangered species, even for subsistence purposes.

Pangelinan stressed that all hunters, subsistence or not, may take game animals subject to the hunting regulations.

Game animals include coconut crabs, wild goats, wild pigs, wild cows, land crabs and Philippine turtle doves. These kinds of animals are game animals, and are not threatened or endangered species.

Season limits, bag limits and license requirements are spelled out in the hunting regulations and they must be respected, he added.

A subsistence hunter may be exempted from these limits imposed by the hunting regulations, but only subject to all of the following criteria:

- The subsistence hunter must have no other reasonable means of providing sustenance to himself and his family;
- A subsistence hunter must be a permanent resident of the northern islands. “Northern Islands” is defined as all islands and adjacent islands north of Saipan to include Farallon de Mendinilla, Anatahan, Sarigan, Guguan, Alamagan, Pagan, Agrihan, Asuncion, Maug Islands and Uracas. The islands of Saipan, Tinian and Aguijan and Rota are not included in the Northern Islands.
- The subsistence hunter must apply to the Secretary for an exemption from the hunting regulations.
- Wildlife taken by subsistence hunters must be used as a personal food source and not sold or traded.
- Permanent residents of the Northern Islands may legally offer game species (not threatened or endangered species) taken as subsistence to legitimate off-island guests during mealtimes. Such game must not be transported off island.
- Hunters who do not permanently reside in the Northern Islands may not legally take game in these islands except in accordance with normal season and license provisions.

# Fiji to ship sheep to Pacific islands

Fiji’s first shipment of its own breed of sheep is reportedly ready for Samoa.

The Ministry of Agriculture acting chief executive officer Samisoni Ulitu confirmed the export deal.

“Samoa’s Cabinet has just given an approval last week and we are going ahead and getting the right sheep and checking other requirements,” Ulitu confirmed on Friday.

The agreement had started work on this new breed 10 years ago and now that it had been successful, Ulitu said this would be the beginning of exports to other Pacific Island countries.

He confirmed that after Samoa the next shipment would be to Tonga. **(FijiSUN/PIR)**

daiichi  
+P213



### ChaCha Junior High PTSA meeting

The ChaCha Oceanview Junior High School will have a PTSA meeting on Thursday, Jan. 22. The meeting will take place at the school’s cafeteria from 5pm-6pm. After the PTSA meeting, the second quarter report card will be distributed to the parents and legal guardians of students attending this institution. All parents and legal guardians are encouraged to attend the PTSA meeting and pick up the report cards.

### OVR rep to hold outreach on Rota

A representative from the CNMI Office of Vocational Rehabilitation will visit the Rota community on Jan. 21-22.

Individuals with disabilities interested in applying for vocational rehabilitation or independent living services are encouraged to meet with VR Counselor II Bernice Ravell at the Rota Mayor’s Office from 8am to 4pm for an overview of OVR’s programs and services.

Ravell will also follow up with current OVR consumers on their rehabilitation plan.

Anyone who has a disability, wants to work, and is interested in receiving VR services, or an individual with a disability who is interested in receiving IL services to improve functional independence in the home or community, contact Linda Atalig at the Mayor’s Office at 532-9451. You can also contact OVR directly from Rota at toll free number 532-8622.

### SVES PTA to meet Tuesday

This is to inform the parents and guardians of the students of San Vicente Elementary School that we will be holding our monthly PTA activity today Jan. 20, at 6pm, at the school’s cafeteria. Various topics will be discussed in the meeting. For more information, consult the informational letter sent with your child or contact the school’s main office at 664-3981.

### Market makes karaoke call

Calling all karaoke kings and queens!

To mark the opening of the Garapan Street Market at its new location at American Memorial Park, the Garapan Street Market will host a karaoke contest on Thursday, Jan. 22, 2004.

A limited number of contestants will perform throughout the evening beginning at 6:30pm. Contestants will be judged on singing ability, choreography, costume, and performance time. Cash prizes will be awarded.

Interested individuals must fill out and submit an application form. Forms are being accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Applications, contest criteria and the song list will be available beginning Jan. 20, 2004, at [www.dcca.gov.mp](http://www.dcca.gov.mp) or at the Office of the Secretary, Dept. of Community and Cultural Affairs, #1341 Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill.

The Garapan Street Market offers food, local and imported crafts, novelties and live entertainment every Thursday from 6pm to 10pm. Admission is free.



Business

Backlash brews as white-collar jobs move

By RACHEL KONRAD  
AP BUSINESS WRITER

Executives from Silicon Valley to Wall Street are adamant that shifting white-collar jobs from the United States to developing countries is good business, but a backlash is brewing.

Indiana's state government canceled a \$15 million contract with an Indian consulting firm in November. And eight states voted on bills last year that would ban the use of taxpayer money on contracts with foreign workers. Though none of those measures passed, the states and several others are expected to consider similar bills this year.

Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry says he would require overseas call centers to disclose their location—the New Economy version of the “Made in America” label.

The Massachusetts senator said he wouldn't ban outsourcing, but would provide tax credits to companies that maintain U.S. factories and “close every single loophole that gives companies incentives to move jobs abroad.”

Outsourcing critics say Americans have been complacent about the loss of technology jobs to overseas workers since the trend began in the late 1990s. But with elections in both the United States and

India, they believe 2004 could be a turning point.

“Politicians can't outsource the vote,” said Scott Kirwin, founder of the Wilmington, Del.-based lobbying group Information Technology Professionals Association of America, which compiles data from nearly 100 anti-outsourcing Web sites. Kirwin, who launched ITPAA after a large investment bank asked him to train the Indian worker who then replaced him, says said only broad consumer revolt will reverse the trend.

“In the 1980s, many people boycotted companies that did business with the apartheid regime in South Africa,” Kirwin said. “Many of those same people have more money today and don't like doing business with companies from countries that work against us politically, like France, or economically, like India and China. Consumer activism is an important part of putting the brakes on the outsourcing movement.”

After his software development job was terminated in 2002, Florida's Mike Emmons decided to run for Congress on an anti-outsourcing agenda. His meager campaign funds come mostly from unemployed programmers who visit his Web site, OutsourceCongress.org. He is trying to get on the ballot for the Democratic primary this summer.

“This is hitting medical

transcribers, financial analysts, radiologists, everyone,” said Emmons, 41. “If you work at a desk, beware - the foreigners are coming after your job.”

Fear of a backlash was a major issue at a technology summit this month in Hyderabad, India. Indiana's failed contract with Tata Consultancy Services, and customer complaints that prompted Dell Inc. to reroute some help desk calls from India to Idaho in November, worry Indians, who have received billions of dollars in outsourcing contracts.

“This is a matter of concern for all of us,” India's info tech minister, Arun Shourie, told officials from 30 Asian countries at the summit. “We must come together to find a consensus approach to fight this backlash.”

Business experts say India needn't worry; Indiana and Dell are high-profile exceptions to what has become the rule of outsourcing.

In a research report in mid-2003, Gartner Inc. predicted that at least one out of 10 technology jobs in the United States would move overseas by the end of 2004. Forrester Research predicts at least 3.3 million white-collar jobs and \$136 billion in wages will shift from the United States to low-cost countries by 2015.

The cost savings are tough to ignore—particularly for cash-strapped states. Connecticut,

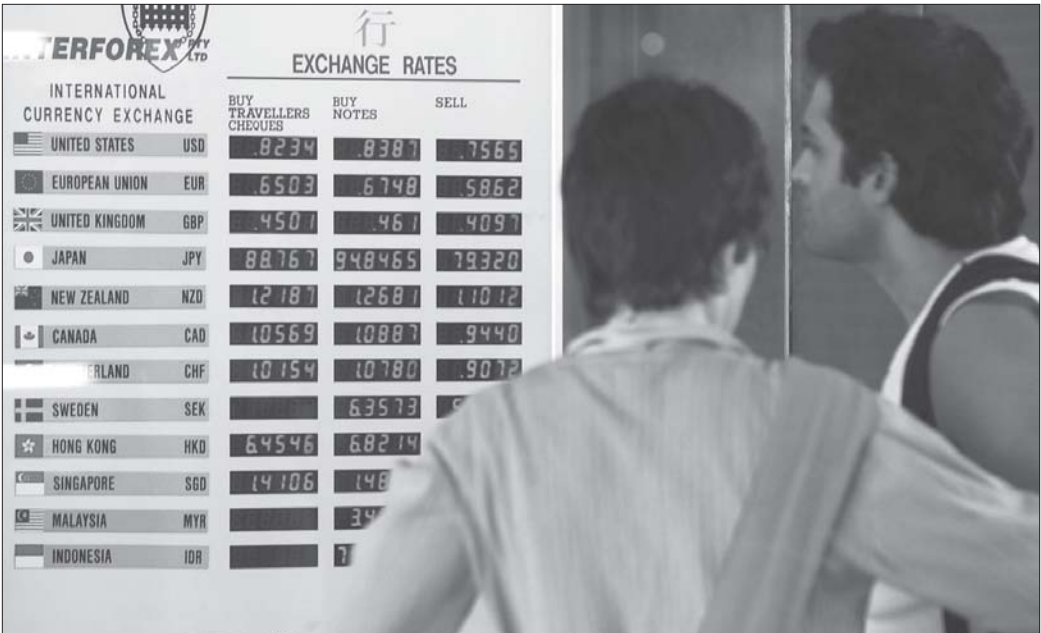
Florida, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York and North Carolina all saw anti-outsourcing bills introduced in 2003, but none passed, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Earlier this month, executives

from Dell, Intel Corp., IBM Corp., Hewlett-Packard Co. and other companies urged the Bush administration to maintain its hands-off approach and not regulate outsourcing.

Executives say transferring highly paid, highly skilled jobs to

foreigners allows companies to engineer products inexpensively and lets Americans focus on emerging fields such as nano-technology. The average American programmer commands \$60 an hour; in India the rate is roughly one-sixth of that.



**AUSTRALIAN ECONOMY**  
Tourists view a foreign exchange rate board in Sydney before changing money Monday, Jan. 12, 2004. The Australian dollar soared 34 percent against the U.S. dollar in 2003, costing manufacturers up to 7.3 billion Australian dollars (US\$5.7 billion) in lost sales and the trend is expected to continue with the Australian dollar at 77.6 U.S. cents Monday with some economists expecting it to reach 80 cents by midyear.

‘Majority of homes are underinsured’

The home is generally a family's most valuable asset, more so given the meteoric rise in property values over the past few years.

But that asset could be at risk if you haven't updated your homeowners insurance policy. Changes in insurers' underwriting practices, rising construction costs and record levels of home-improvement projects could mean that your insurance coverage hasn't kept pace.

About 64 percent of U.S. homes were underinsured by an average of 27 percent in 2003, due, in part, to construction costs that have risen about 5 percent to 6 percent last year, said Bob Crine, president of Marshall & Swift/Boeckh, a New Berlin, Wis., company that tracks rebuilding costs for insurers.

That's why it's important to carefully review homeowners-insurance renewal notices and take steps to ensure you're properly insured. Remember that your insurance is based on the cost to rebuild your home if it's destroyed, not on the amount you think you could get by selling it.

Of course, most insurers do offer inflation-guard clauses that account for rising costs and boost

coverage accordingly. Plus, insurers are becoming more aggressive about implementing insurance-to-value programs that can more accurately estimate a home's replacement value, said Bob Hunter, director of insurance for the Consumer Federation of America.

Not only have insurers changed to systems that can provide better estimates, but the industry is also starting to base estimates on reconstruction costs (instead of new construction costs) which take into account additional expenses for debris removal, specialized workers and the lack of any bulk discounts, Crine said.

But automatic annual adjustments typically exclude home renovations. “Major alterations and big-ticket purchases should trigger a call to your insurance agent,” said Jeanne Salvatore, spokeswoman for the Insurance Information Institute, an industry trade group in New York.

In 2003, homeowners spent a record \$130.4 billion on home improvements, up 7.3 percent from 2002, according to the Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard University.

Meanwhile, changes in insurers' underwriting practices could mean that you have less coverage than you think. Many have moved to stem rising claim costs by limiting payouts to the estimated value of a home, plus a certain percentage, instead of the actual cost of rebuilding.

In 1999, State Farm Insurance, for example, started replacing its guaranteed-replacement coverage with a policy that covers the home's estimated replacement costs, plus a cushion of 20 percent if costs outstrip the insured value, said Kip Diggs, a spokesman for the Bloomington, Ill., company. “We found that there were many customers who instead of purchasing the proper amount of insurance for their house, would simply rely on guaranteed replacement” to make up any difference, he said.

That's why experts say some homeowners may be better off with replacement-guarantee coverage instead of cash-value policies. Policies offered through Chubb Group Insurance Companies, for example, will pay the full cost to rebuild a home, even if the cost is greater than the amount of your coverage. (AP)

ctc



# Corporate underlings tell tales of gifts

By TOM HAYS  
AP WRITER

Before scandal engulfed Tyco International, Tammy Cross worked behind the scenes as a switchboard operator, receptionist, even as a flight attendant on corporate jets.

Cross says her bosses made sure she knew to keep quiet about who flew and what was discussed. They also gave the single mother a surprise benefit: college tuition for her daughter.

"I was overwhelmed," she testified recently at the ongoing Manhattan trial of L. Dennis Kozlowski, the former Tyco chief executive charged with stealing \$600 million from the electronic and medical supply conglomerate.

Cross' story reflects a pattern of alleged behavior running through the recent flurry of white-collar criminal cases: executives plying their underlings with expensive gifts and other unexpected perks.

Defense attorneys argue that the generosity was meant as good management, not manipulation. But prosecutors and experts on corporate practices contend the real purpose was to buy the support staffs' loyalty—and silence—as the higher-ups sought to evade regulators.

Larry Johnson, a consultant and author of "Absolute Honesty: Building Corporate Culture That Values Straight Talk and Rewards Integrity," said the practice, though rare, can arise in corporate cultures where executives have something to hide.

"I'd call it pre-emptive bribery: Treat them well and they won't squeal on you," he said.

In the Tyco case, the jury has heard two former Kozlowski secretaries testify that—while having affairs with the CEO—they lived cost-free in Tyco apartments. The two, Barbara



Franklin C. Brown, left, the former chief counsel of Rite Aid Corp., leaves the Federal Courthouse in Harrisburg, Pa., in this Friday, Oct. 17, 2003, file photo.

Jacques and Mary Murphy, were later given severance packages and loan payoffs worth hundreds of thousands of dollars, according to testimony.

Cross testified this month that after being assigned to the company's flight department in 1997, Kozlowski told her she "would be seeing different things and to be discreet."

Around the same time, Kozlowski designated her daughter a "Tyco scholar," meaning the company would pay her tuition at prep schools and college, she said. Tyco also forgave a \$239,000 mortgage she had secured through the company.

Such arrangements "obviously don't fall within the realm of standard compensation," said Neil V. Getnick, managing

partner with Getnick & Getnick, a firm specializing in advising companies on business integrity.

"And it's important to remember that there was shareholder money used to fund it," Getnick said.

To avoid trouble, many businesses strictly enforce "a hard-line set of guidelines that would prohibit any favoritism," Johnson said.

But alleged favors had been frequent in other high-profile corruption cases that have rocked corporate America in the past two years.

In domestic maven Martha Stewart's case, an assistant to Stewart's broker, Douglas Faneuil, claims he was offered an extra week of vacation and a free airline ticket to mislead Securities

and Exchange Commission and FBI investigators about his knowledge of alleged insider trading. He pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor in 2002, and will be a key prosecution witness at Stewart's securities fraud trial starting this week.

Prosecutors in the multi-billion-dollar fraud case against former HealthSouth Corp. chief executive Richard M. Scrushy allege he systematically paid off employees to "buy their silence" about a scheme to inflate earnings. Scrushy, who is awaiting trial in Alabama, has denied any role in the fraud and blamed his subordinates.

Last year, a longtime secretary for former Rite Aid executive Franklin C. Brown testified at his trial in Pennsylvania that he wrote her

a personal check for \$25,000 in 1998 - a week after she helped him manufacture backdated documents that qualified him for thousands of shares of stock.

Brown, once chief counsel for the nation's No. 3 drugstore chain, is awaiting sentencing for his conviction on conspiracy, obstruction of justice and other charges.

An attorney for Brown, 75, argued at trial that his client's penchant for giving personal gifts and loans to loyal associates was innocent, and referred to him as "an old man shuffling around, trying to be useful, trying to be involved."

The secretary, Mary Lou Egan, told the jury she tried to turn down the offer to use the money to buy a new car—"It was an overly generous offer I was uncomfortable with"—but ultimately relented.

Egan used \$22,996 to buy a convertible, and returned the remaining \$2,004 to Brown.

## IBM to add 4,500 jobs in US

On the heels of strong earnings reports, IBM Corp. announced Saturday that it will add 15,000 jobs worldwide.

About 4,500 new hires will be made in the United States, primarily tied to high-growth areas such as software and services, company officials said. The remainder of the jobs will be in emerging markets such as China and India and in Europe.

The job additions were 50 percent over company projections and will increase Big Blue's work force to nearly 330,000, officials said. More than half of the company's employees are outside the United States.

Garrett Walker, director of strategic resource management for IBM, said the company is investing \$200 million in training for what it calls "hot skills" in the information technology area.

"We're bullish on the whole IT market in 2004," Walker said.

Last week, IBM offered an upbeat outlook for 2004, announcing that fourth-quarter earnings more than doubled and surpassed Wall Street expectations. In the last three months of 2003, IBM earned \$2.7 billion, or \$1.55 per share, on revenue of \$25.9 billion.

With the new hirings, IBM will have the most employees it has had since 1991, when it had 344,000 employees worldwide. (AP)

## Northwest gave passenger info to govt

Northwest Airlines gave information on passengers to the federal government for a secret air-security project after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the airline said.

Northwest is the second carrier to be identified as secretly passing travelers' records to the government. In September, JetBlue Airways said it turned over passenger records to a defense contractor, later apologizing to its customers.

Northwest's participation in the project was first reported by the Washington Post for its Sunday editions. The airline said in a statement to the newspaper Friday that it participated in the NASA program to help the government's search for technology to improve aviation security.

"Northwest Airlines had a duty and an obligation to cooperate with the federal

government for national security reasons," the airline said.

A Northwest spokesman told The Associated Press late Saturday that the airline participated in the program but had no further comment.

Northwest, based in Eagan, Minn., had said earlier it was not involved in the program.

"We do not provide that type of information to anyone," Northwest spokesman Kurt Ebenhoch told the New York Times on Sept. 23.

Other airlines had said they would not cooperate in developing a government passenger-screening program because of privacy concerns.

The carrier declined to say how many passenger records were shared with NASA from the period offered, October to December 2001. More than 10.9

million passengers traveled on Northwest flights during that time, according to the Transportation Department.

NASA documents show that NASA kept Northwest's passenger name records until September 2003.

Such records typically include credit card numbers, addresses and telephone numbers. NASA said it used the information to investigate whether "data mining" of the records could improve assessments of threats posed by passengers, according to the agency's written responses to questions.

NASA said no other airlines were involved in the project and it did not share its data with other parties. The agency said it did not pay for the data.

Northwest said it did not inform any passengers that it shared data with NASA. It also

said it did not believe that the data sharing violated its privacy policy.

"Our privacy policy commits Northwest not to sell passenger information to third parties for marketing purposes," the company said in its statement to the Post. "This situation was entirely different, as we were providing the data to a government agency to conduct scientific research related to aviation security and we were confident that the privacy of passenger information would be maintained."

The Northwest and NASA documents were released in response to a Freedom of Information Act request filed by the Electronic Privacy Information Center, a nonprofit organization that advocates privacy rights and open government. (AP)



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# Nation

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# Asia

## N. Korea urges US on nuke halt offer

By HANS GREIMEL  
AP WRITER

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)**—A day after showing American delegates its “nuclear deterrent,” North Korea marked the anniversary Sunday of its expulsion of U.N. weapons inspectors by resolving to bolster its self-defense against a possible U.S. nuclear attack.

Yet as the isolated communist North kept up its typically harsh anti-American rhetoric, North Korea’s official KCNA news agency also urged Washington to accept Pyongyang’s offer of a freeze on its program as a first step toward resolving the crisis over its atomic weapons programs.

The American delegates arrived in Seoul on Sunday after a visit to the North in which officials reportedly showed them recently reprocessed plutonium—the fuel for atomic bombs—to convey the extent of development and what might be curbed if the programs were suspended. The five delegates were the first outside visitors to the Yongbyon nuclear plant since Pyongyang expelled the U.N. inspectors.

International and domestic pressure is mounting for the Bush administration to accept the North’s offer of a freeze as a compromise to rekindle six-nation talks on the nuclear standoff.

While previously rejecting such offers, the United States—against the backdrop of the delegation’s visit—



Jack Pritchard, second left, a former U.S. State Department official, and John W. Lewis, center, professor emeritus of international relations at Stanford University, arrive at Sun An Airport in Pyongyang, capital of North Korea, Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2004.

called Pyongyang’s latest proposal a “positive step forward.” South Korea hailed the plan as creating “atmosphere” for new negotiations.

Meanwhile, Russia and China were working to broker a compromise that reportedly calls for a freeze as a first step toward resuming six-nation talks on the Korea crisis. Chinese diplomats are expected to float such a proposal next week in Washington, according to Russia’s Itar-Tass news agency.

The American delegation has said it was shown everything it asked to see at North Korea’s Yongbyon nuclear facility, but delegates would not give details until they had briefed superiors in Washington.

One delegate, Jack Pritchard, has urged Washington to “pocket” Pyongyang’s offer of a freeze before North Korea is able to strengthen its nuclear arsenal and its negotiating hand. North Korea is believed to already have

one or two nuclear weapons, and could soon build several more with reprocessed plutonium.

“It is urgently important that the United States stop the program now before Pyongyang becomes a limited nuclear weapons state,” the former U.S. State Department official wrote in an editorial published Friday in the Korea Herald. The piece was written before he left for North Korea.

The nuclear dispute flared in

October 2002 when Washington accused North Korea of running a secret nuclear program in violation of a 1994 agreement. A U.S.-led international coalition cut off free oil shipments being supplied under the accord, and - on Jan. 11, 2003 - North Korea expelled U.N. inspectors from Yongbyon.

In marking the anniversary of the move, North Korea’s official KCNA news agency said Sunday the country has resolved to “keep strengthening self-defensive means to check the nuclear pre-emptive attack of the U.S.”

The North has insisted it needs nuclear weapons as a deterrent against a possible U.S. attack. It says it will freeze its nuclear programs as a first step if Washington lifts sanctions against it, resumes shipments of heavy oil, and removes North Korea from the State Department list of countries that sponsor terrorism.

In response, the United States has demanded that North Korea first verifiably begin dismantling its nuclear programs before receiving any concessions.

Two U.S. congressional aides from the delegation were scheduled to meet South Korean Foreign Ministry officials on Monday. Republican aide Keith Luse and Democratic colleague Frank Jannuzzi are East Asia experts for the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee. They work respectively for Republican committee chairman Richard Lugar and Joseph Biden, the panel’s ranking Democrat.

## Crews seek clues after Indonesian blast

**JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)**—Forensic crews picked through debris Sunday after the bombing of a karaoke bar on Indonesia’s Sulawesi island that killed four people and wounded three.

The blast—the latest explosion to hit the world’s most populous Muslim nation—occurred Saturday night in the town of Palopo in South Sulawesi province, deputy local police chief Maj. Wisnu Widarto said.

Parts of Sulawesi island were wracked by violence between Muslims and Christians in 1999 and 2000, but Widarto said “it was too soon” to link the blast to religious militants.

No one claimed responsibility.

Four people—including a waitress in the busy café—were killed instantly. All the victims were Muslims, Widarto said.

“At the moment we do not yet know the motive and are having trouble identifying possible suspects,” he told The Associated Press.

The blast was caused by a low-explosive bomb planted on the second floor of the cafe, about 1,100 miles northeast of Jakarta, officers said.

Forensic experts were searching for clues at the scene of the bombing. Officers also were questioning 15 witnesses, Widarto said.

Fighting between Muslims and Christians in 1999 and 2000 left more than 1,000 dead in Central Sulawesi province. The violence did not spread to South Sulawesi, however.

On Oct. 12, 2002, suspected militants belonging to the al-Qaida-linked Jemaah Islamiyah militant group blew up two nightclubs on Bali island, killing 202

people, mostly foreign tourists.

Several of the 29 people so far convicted in the Bali blasts cited revenge for the deaths of Muslims on Sulawesi, and the nearby Maluku islands, as a motive for the attacks.

Jemaah Islamiyah also has been linked to a December 2002 blast at a McDonald’s restaurant in the Sulawesi town of Makassar, which killed three, and to the Aug. 5 attack on the J.W. Marriott Hotel in Jakarta that killed 12 people and wounded 150.

Unlike most of Indonesia—a giant archipelago home to hundreds of ethnic groups and several separatist movements—Sulawesi is home to roughly equal numbers of Muslims and Christians.

Some blasts at Indonesian nightspots also have been blamed on disputes between gangsters.

## India may hold elections in March

**HYDERABAD, India (AP)**—India’s ruling party is expected to ask Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee to dissolve Parliament and call for national elections as soon as March, a party spokesman said Sunday.

Vajpayee, who is enjoying a surge in popularity, already was in campaign mode Sunday, attacking main political rival Sonia Gandhi of the Congress Party before thousands of supporters in the southern city of Hyderabad.

Vajpayee’s Bharatiya Janata Party started its national executive committee meeting Sunday in Hyderabad. The Hindu nationalist party wants to call elections soon to capitalize on India’s healthy economy and better ties with Pakistan.

India holds national elections at

least every five years. The current parliament’s term expires in October.

“Elections are around the corner,” BJP spokesman Pramod Mahajan said, adding that the committee would announce the exact date Wednesday.

He said previously that the elections could happen as soon as March.

Political analysts, however, said elections likely will not occur until April because of the amount of time involved in dissolving Parliament and organizing the polls.

“Clearly, the BJP doesn’t want to give much time to the opposition parties to regroup,” said Mahesh Rangarajan, a political analyst and a visiting professor at Cornell University. “But I think ... the earliest dates could be late April.”

## Pakistan arrests 9 in plot to assassinate president

**ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP)**—Police arrested nine people believed linked to the planners of last month’s assassination attempt against President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, a security official said Sunday.

The suspects, including some students, were detained during a raid Saturday on an Islamic school in the eastern city of Lahore, the official said on condition of anonymity. He refused to give any more details.

Meanwhile, Pakistan toughened its punishments for terror financiers, raising the maximum jail term from five

to 10 years, and banning them from posting bail, Information Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed said.

The Cabinet approved the changes to Pakistan’s 1997 Anti-Terrorism Act on Saturday. Ahmed said terror financiers previously faced a minimum of six months in jail but would now face a minimum of four years.

The changes after two bombings within 11 days targeted Musharraf last month. No one has claimed responsibility for the attacks and the president escaped unhurt.

In the second attack, suicide bombers tried to ram two explosive-

laden pickup trucks into Musharraf’s motorcade Dec. 25, killing 16 people. Intelligence officials say the bombers belonged to Jaish-e-Mohammed, a Pakistan-based outlawed militant group fighting Indian rule in the divided Himalayan region of Kashmir.

Musharraf, who made Pakistan a key ally of the United States in its war on terror, banned Jaish-e-Mohammed in January 2002 but has had limited success in stopping its activities.

Jaish-e-Mohammed is one of several Pakistan-based groups opposed to Musharraf’s policy on Kashmir.

## Chinese pop diva mourned in HK

**HONG KONG (AP)**—Thousands lined up outside a Hong Kong funeral parlor on Sunday to pay final respects to Chinese pop diva Anita Mui, who died last month at the age of 40.

Mourners filled two nearby basketball courts across the street from the Hong Kong Funeral Home where the entrance was inundated with white wreaths. Some fans wore black sweat shirts reading “we’ll miss you forever.”

The territory’s top stars also filed in to pay tribute, including singers Sammi Cheng and Gigi Leung, along with former Chinese student leader Wu’er Kaixi, who lives in exile in Taiwan.

Mui died on Dec. 30 of lung complications caused by cervical cancer. Her funeral service was scheduled for Monday.

Mui shot to fame in the 1980s, winning admirers across the Chinese-speaking world with her deep and melancholic voice. She appeared in many acclaimed films.

Mui also was active in charity work. In 1989, she was part of a fund-raising effort for China’s pro-democracy student movement, which mainland authorities crushed with a violent crackdown in Beijing’s Tiananmen Square.



# China isolates 3rd possible SARS case

By STEPHANIE HOO  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

**BEIJING (AP)**—China has isolated a 35-year-old man in a hospital on signs he could be the nation's third SARS case of the season, though the Health Ministry has not formally classified him as a suspected case, state media reported Monday.

Meanwhile, China marched on with its war on animals thought to carry SARS, with scientists studying whether they can feed contraceptive drugs to rats, a newspaper said.

The hospitalized man, in the southern province of Guangdong, has not had contact with any SARS patients or infected wild animals, the China Daily reported.

While he has symptoms of severe acute respiratory syndrome, a flu-like disease, "medical experts have yet to confirm the man as a suspected case," the newspaper said.

Officials in neighboring Hong Kong already reported the new possible case over the weekend, having spoken to their counterparts in Guangdong.

SARS is believed to have first appeared in Guangdong in late 2002 before sickening more than 8,000 people worldwide, killing 774 of them. That outbreak waned in July.

The disease re-emerged this season in a 32-year-old television, whose SARS diagnosis was confirmed earlier this month. He left the hospital last week and was pronounced recovered.

World Health Organization spokesman Roy Wadia, who was in Guangdong on Monday, said China's Health Ministry was to confer with physicians in the province later in the day, both to try to verify whether the new patient might have SARS and to find out more about another patient who has already been deemed a "suspected case"—a 20-year-old

## Manila fire leaves 22,000 homeless

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—A huge fire raged through a shantytown in the Philippine capital early Monday, destroying thousands of shacks and leaving about 22,000 residents homeless, fire department officials said. No deaths were reported.

The blaze broke out before midnight in the impoverished Tondo neighborhood and raged for more than seven hours. It was believed to have been caused by a tipped-over candle or gas lamp, officials said.

The area is crowded and has very narrow alleys, which made it difficult for firefighters to put out the blaze, Social Welfare Secretary Corazon Soliman said.

A navy fireboat on a nearby river also took part in the operation.

One firefighter was reported injured, but there were no other reports of casualties.

Soliman said 2,503 homes were burned down, leaving about 4,500 families—or 22,000 people—homeless.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo arrived at the scene early Monday and supervised the opening of a shelter at a local gymnasium to accommodate the homeless and distribute relief goods.

Most of the victims were staying temporarily in nearby vacant lots.



A woman wearing a mask walks in a Hong Kong downtown street Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2004. After more than two weeks of intricate tests, the Chinese government and the World Health Organization announced Monday that a sick man in southern China does have the SARS virus, triggering fears that a second season of the illness might be at hand.

waitress who worked in a restaurant serving wild game.

China suspects animals—particularly the weasel-like civet cat—are responsible for spreading SARS to humans. Guangdong province has forbidden restaurants from serving civets and carried out a mass slaughter of the animals last week.

The provincial capital of Guangzhou is also in the midst of a

massive rat-killing campaign to eliminate another possible SARS source. The Beijing Star Daily reported Monday that the city will put out 100 tons of poisoned grain.

Plus, scientists in the western city of Chengdu are studying ways to keep rats from breeding, the paper said. "Experiments show that rats like the flavor of apples, so we will put that flavor into sterilizing drugs," the paper

quoted researcher Ma Lin as saying.

WHO also was studying the case of the TV producer, China's only officially confirmed SARS case of the season. A WHO environmental team this week-end visited the apartment complex where the patient lives to try to figure out how he caught SARS.

"They went around the building and took samples, which are to be tested today or tomorrow," Wadia said.

## RP condemns deadly rebel attacks

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—Philippine authorities Sunday condemned as a terrorist act a deadly attack by communist rebels on a power station that supplies the capital Manila—but the government said it was still willing to resume peace talks with the guerrillas.

New People's Army guerrillas, armed with rifles and anti-tank rockets, attacked an army detachment guarding the state-run power plant in Batangas province south of Manila Saturday, the military said. Four soldiers and three insurgents died in the fighting.

Military spokesman Lt. Col. Daniel Lucero said the rebels had been planning to destroy the 600-megawatt power plant. If successful, it would have cut power to a region that included the bustling capital metropolitan Manila. The rebels denied planning to destroy the plant.

"We strongly condemn the attack,"

presidential spokesman Ignacio Bunye said. "It is clear that this is a terroristic activity."

Asked how the attacks would affect prospective peace talks, Bunye said "the government continues to yearn for peace and we would not close our door on any opportunity to attain peace."

The military, police and government officials have been told to be on alert for more attacks, Bunye said.

The attack in the coastal town of Calaca in Batangas, about 80 kilometers (50 miles) south of Manila, came after Communist Party spokesman Gregorio Rosal said last week that the rebels would intensify attacks ahead of May 10 elections to help bring down President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's government because of her strong ties with the United States.

On Friday, a small group of guerrillas

shot and wounded a bodyguard of Congressman Joey Solis, who visited a village road project in Gubat town in Sorsogon province, about 380 kilometers (235 miles) southeast of Manila, the military said. The rebels seized three pistols and three cell phones from the bodyguard. Solis was not hurt, the military said.

The guerrillas, estimated to number more than 9,000, have been waging a Marxist rebellion in the Philippines for 35 years. Washington placed the rebels on its list of terrorist organizations two years ago and urged nations to deny them refuge and money.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo suspended talks with the guerrillas in 2001 after they assassinated a number of politicians. However, both sides have been meeting informally to try to revive the talks with the help of the Norwegian government.

## Battle over accused US military mortician widens in South Korea

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)**—The jurisdiction battle over a U.S. military employee who triggered protests after allegedly dumping toxic chemicals into a South Korean river widened Monday with South Korean prosecutors saying they have banned the American from leaving the country.

A South Korean court had earlier this month sentenced Albert McFarland, a civilian mortician with the U.S. military here, to six months in prison. He was not present at the trial.

But the U.S. military refused to accept the South Korean court ruling, saying the Status of Forces Agreement between Washington and Seoul gives the U.S. side jurisdiction over the McFarland case. SOFA governs the legal status of the 37,000

U.S. troops stationed in South Korea.

"Mr. McFarland was in an official duty status and believed he was complying with proper procedures," the U.S. military said in a statement last week. The U.S. military "maintains it has the primary right to jurisdiction."

The U.S. military has no plans to relinquish him to South Korean authorities.

Seoul claims that SOFA allows South Korea jurisdiction over the case, claiming that the incident took place while McFarland was off duty. Until resolved, prosecutors said they would restrict McFarland's movements.

"We imposed a travel ban on McFarland following the court's sentence in order to execute the sentence," a prosecution official said on

customary condition of anonymity.

McFarland was accused of ordering the dumping of 24 gallons (90 liters) of formaldehyde into the Han River, a main source of drinking water for 12 million people in the nation's capital of Seoul, in 2000.

The case became known to the South Korean public after one of McFarland's Korean subordinates at an American military mortuary reported it to a local environmental group.

The case triggered anti-American protests, with activists demanding the withdrawal of U.S. troops.

The U.S. military has insisted that the dumped embalming chemical posed no threat to public health or to the environment since it was treated in a sewage system and diluted with waste water.

## China wants US to leave Hong Kong alone

By TED ANTHONY  
AP WRITER

**BEIJING (AP)**—Stung by U.S. calls for more democracy in Hong Kong, China has demanded that the American government "stop interfering" in the territory's internal affairs, the official news agency said Sunday.

Kong Quan, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman, was quoted by the Xinhua News Agency as responding to a U.S. State Department spokesman's comment on Hong Kong's political development.

"Hong Kong affairs (are) an internal issue of China, and the Chinese government firmly opposes any foreign government interference in the affairs of Hong Kong in any form," Xinhua said, paraphrasing Kong.

It quoted Kong as saying that "Hong Kong's political structure must develop in a gradual and orderly manner."

Last week, U.S. State Department spokesman Richard Boucher expressed the United States' "strong support for democracy through electoral reform and universal suffrage in Hong Kong," saying that would stimulate the territory's economic development.

"Our belief is in democracy," Boucher said at a briefing in Washington. "The Hong Kong people and the Hong Kong government need to start addressing this issue."

He said the United States wanted to make sure that the people of Hong Kong "get their choice to design their system that's appropriate for them." He added: "We care a lot about the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong."

Pro-democracy protests, some of them quite large, have taken place in Hong Kong since July 1, when 500,000 people marched on the streets against a Beijing-backed national security bill. Activists accuse the territory's Beijing-appointed leader, Tung Chee-hwa, of undermining efforts at self-government.

The refrain is a familiar one for both countries. The U.S. government has long called for more democracy in China, both on the mainland and more recently in Hong Kong. China often insists that such comments are an interference in its domestic policies.

Hong Kong, a former British colony, reverted to Chinese rule in 1997. It is now a special administrative region governed under a doctrine known as "one country, two systems," under which the Chinese government has allowed it to operate semi-independently.

The China-U.S. relationship—politically, at least—has been reasonably stable for more than two years, though the economic relationship between the two has grown tense over a U.S. trade deficit and calls from the Bush administration that Beijing float its currency.



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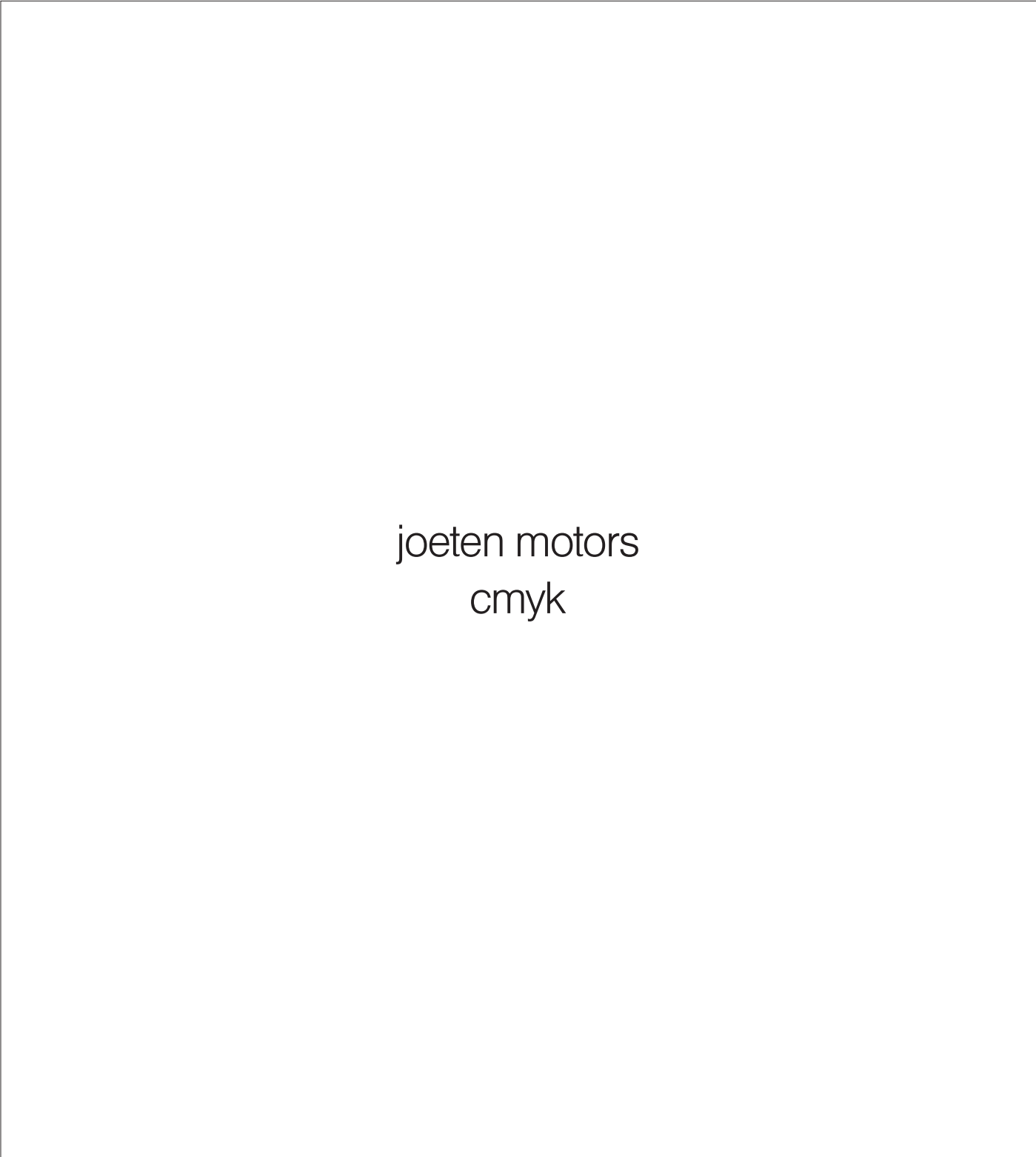
# World

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# Overdrive



Life & Style

NASA’s Mars rovers landing in toy stores

By ANDREW BRIDGES  
AP SCIENCE WRITER

PASADENA, Calif. (AP)—The California Institute of Technology is making a little green off the red planet. Caltech, which runs the Jet Propulsion Laboratory for NASA, patented the twin rovers it sent to investigate the surface of Mars and is licensing their images for commercial use.

Models of the six-wheeled Spirit rover are already on store shelves. Caltech has inked three deals so far and expects perhaps three more.

Officials of the private university didn’t say how much money they hope to make, but pledged to donate half to educational outreach programs and the rest for Caltech research.

“We did it more for publicity than as a commercial hit,” said Frederic Farina, assistant director of Caltech’s office of technology transfer.

Danish toy maker Lego Co. was one of the first companies

to sign an agreement and is already selling a build-it-yourself toy version of Spirit, the rover that arrived on Mars on Jan. 3 and has wheeled away from its lander to explore the landscape. Its twin rover, Opportunity, is scheduled to touch down Jan. 24.

The toy was based on drawings supplied by Caltech, said Jeff James of Lego’s community development office in Enfield, Conn. The set retails for \$89.99 and contains 858 plastic pieces. It’s recommended for children ages 10 and up.

“It’s on the high end of challenging to put together,” James said.

Among the first to receive the kits were the Nobel laureates, industry executives, astronauts and others who sit on Caltech’s board of trustees.

“All these super scientists, Nobel Prize winners, were totally gaga over it,” Farina said.

Another company is producing a collectible, 1/10th

scale model rover that sells for \$150. A third is making larger models destined for museums.

NASA also signed its own Space Act agreement with CKE Restaurants Inc., the parent company of Carl’s Jr. and Hardee’s.

The fast-food restaurants are selling children’s meals that come with a NASA-approved toy spacecraft, including the Mars rovers, said Debbie Rivera, head of strategic alliances for NASA’s office of public affairs. CKE expects to distribute as many as 3.5 million.

Lego expects to sell a few million dollars’ worth of its Mars toys, including a smaller, less complicated set that has 417 pieces, Farina said.

The company plays several roles in the Mars mission. Lego and The Planetary Society sponsored one contest to name the rovers and a second that selected 16 international students who are working on the Mars mission.

Lego also scored a coup in extraplanetary product placement.

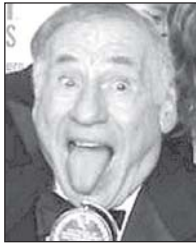
Brooks lends voice to PBS kids show

NEWYORK (AP)—No one could ever accuse Mel Brooks of being sheepish. So it makes perfect sense that he’s now playing the least sheepish sheep you’ll ever meet.

Brooks, the madcap creator of “The Producers,” “Young Frankenstein” and the 2000 Year Old Man, gives voice to Wiley the Sheep in “Jakers! The Adventures of Piggley Winks.”

Already on most PBS stations, the animated series aimed at 4- to 7-year-olds premieres Monday on PBS KIDS Digital. (Check local listings.)

Its title character is an 8-year-old pig, who’s friends with Dannan the Duck and Ferny the Bull in 1950s rural Ireland. “Jakers!” is their recurrent exclamation of delight and amazement. Each show begins and ends with Piggley as a present-day grandfather telling his grandchildren about his childhood escapades.



Brooks

Along the way, he imparts how he learned various lessons—such as there’s no such thing as a “Salmon of Knowledge” that magically gives you all the answers to school tests.

In between, Wiley—an American in Ireland—tries to galvanize his fellow sheep. But the flock he’s stuck with is incorrigibly dumb and lazy.

“It’s a great challenge,” Brooks cracked in a recent interview, “because eventually I realize: I’m working with sheep.”

Brooks decided to do the show because his only grandchild, 5-year-old Samantha, was getting interested in animation a couple years ago and he thought it would be great for her to point to a cartoon character and say, “That’s my grandpa!”

“It brings me closer to Samantha. I like doing things where kids enjoy my work,” said Brooks, who did the voice of Joe Snow in 2002’s “It’s a Very Merry Muppet Christmas Movie.”

The 77-year-old writer-actor-director said he was attracted to “Jakers!”—created by Entara Ltd. in London and Los Angeles-based Mike Young Productions—by the writing, the imaginative stories and the fact that each episode has a moral.

“It’s a great way to teach these kids what’s proper, what’s right in life,” he said. And he hopes the message will stick: “You gain in life by giving and by loving and doing instead of taking.”







## Dad's Alzheimer diagnosis is met by angry siblings' denial

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY:

For years now, my dad's health has slowly deteriorated. He has good days when he kind of knows what's going on, and bad days when his whole world is off balance. Recently he suffered some mini-strokes, and last September the doctor diagnosed him with Alzheimer's.



*Dear Abby*

I was there when Dad was diagnosed. You could see the look of relief on his face to finally have a name for what was going on inside him. He told the doctor, "Well, at least now I know I'm not going crazy" because it was a medical condition he could comprehend.

The problem is his siblings. They get angry at Mom when she tells the doctor how Dad is at home and accuse her of exaggerating. They get upset with us for not letting Dad drive, even though he doesn't see well and has been known to get lost. They have even gone behind our backs and told Dad he does not have Alzheimer's, which only compounds the problem.

Some of Dad's siblings see him only once a week at church. They all insist he is "fine" and blame Mom for his lack of "spirit." One aunt, in particular, is cold and nasty toward Mom.

Poor Mom has a hard enough time being caregiver to a man who doesn't always recognize us and can't remember names. There are times when Dad runs to the neighbors saying, "People are in the house trying to steal things."

Mom, who has always been a strong woman, cries almost daily. She does not deserve nor need the aggravation that Dad's siblings are causing. She loves Dad and wants, as we do, only the best for him.

How can I handle this? Mom wanted to include Dad's family in what is going on with him, but all it's done is bring heartache and sadness.

THEY'RE NOT HELPING

**DEAR THEY'RE NOT HELPING:** You and your mother have my deepest sympathy. Your father's siblings are in deep denial — which is probably why they can't bring themselves to admit what is really happening. Their anger at your mother is part of their denial. They would rather believe that she is exaggerating than come to grips with the truth.

What your mother needs now is emotional support. I recommend that she contact the Alzheimer's Association ((800) 272-3900) for the location of the nearest support group. No caregiver should have to go through this experience alone — and with their help, she won't.

**P.S.** Your father should not be out of the house unescorted, and he certainly does not belong behind the wheel of a car.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

**CONFIDENTIAL TO "SHOULD I JOIN FRIEND'S UNIQUE VENTURE?":** There's an old saying, "Never test the depth of the water with both feet." Consider the risks carefully, consult a lawyer before agreeing, and get everything in writing.

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)*

## Psychic: Jackson denied abusing children

**JERUSALEM (AP)**—Psychic Uri Geller defended his friend Michael Jackson on Sunday, saying the pop singer denied under hypnosis three years ago that he had sexually abused children.

Geller, best known for his claimed telekinetic ability to bend spoons, told Israel's Army Radio that he hypnotized Jackson when the two were alone in a recording studio at an undisclosed location.

The hypnosis would have taken place before Jackson is alleged to have molested a cancer-stricken boy invited to his Neverland Ranch.

"I told him that that if he would let me, I would hypnotize him," Geller told the radio. "He said, 'Okay, let's give it a try.'"

He said he asked Jackson about persistent rumors that he had abused children.

"He answered me under deep hypnosis that he had never touched a child in a sexual way," Geller said. "He said—and here I'm using his exact words—'My relations with children are very beautiful.'"

Geller said he was convinced Jackson was telling him the truth. "I'm a good hypnotist, and I



American pop star Michael Jackson arrives at the University of Oxford Union, with Uri Geller in Oxford England, in this March 6, 2001 file photo.

know who is trying to mislead me ... "he said. "I can see straight into the subject's eyes ... (Jackson) didn't fool me, I'm absolutely sure of it."

Geller said he did not seek Jackson's permission to ask

about the abuse allegations during the hypnosis, but that he posed the question because he was about to introduce Jackson to his family and wanted to be sure the singer was innocent.

Geller was born and raised

in Israel and has lived in Europe since 1972.

Jackson faces seven counts alleging lewd or lascivious acts upon a child under 14 and two counts of administering an intoxicating agent. He has pleaded innocent.

## Bono honored by Martin Luther King Jr.'s widow

**ATLANTA (AP)**—As a teenager in Ireland, when violence and unrest were escalating because of the conflict over Northern Ireland, U2 front man Bono longed for the voice of reason from somebody such as the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

Those thoughts and understanding of King's teachings and life led the singer to write a song about the slain civil rights leader,

a 1984 hit called "Pride (In the Name of Love)."

"We despaired for the lack of vision of the kind Dr. King gave to people in the South," Bono said Saturday before accepting one of the highest honors from the King Center, the organization founded by King's widow, Coretta Scott King.

"We are fortunate this year to... honor Bono for exemplifying

many of the qualities that my husband, Martin, indicated were imperative to moving our society into the beloved community of which he so often spoke," Coretta Scott King said.

The Target Corp. received the same award for its charitable work around the country.

Bono was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize last year for his work to relieve third world

debt and promote AIDS awareness. He is the founder of Debt AIDS Trade Africa, which works with religious groups concerned with global disease and hunger issues.

"When Dr. King spoke about having a dream, he wasn't just talking about an American dream. It can be an African dream, an Irish dream," Bono said. "That's why I'm excited to be here."

## 'Bachelorette' groom honored in Colorado

**VAIL, Colo. (AP)**—A ceremony honoring "Bachelorette" groom Ryan Sutter was temporarily interrupted this weekend when duty called—the firefighter was called out on a medical emergency.

Sutter gained a measure of fame when he won the right to woo "Bachelorette" star Trista Rehn on the popular reality show.

He was honored Saturday with a souvenir town manhole cover. The resort sells them at prices ranging from \$65 to \$295. Previously, the covers have been given only to former President Gerald Ford and the New York Philharmonic.

Rehn stayed for the event, while Sutter answered the call.

The couple rode to the ceremony in a fire truck.



Trista Rehn, left, and Ryan Sutter, the couple who emerged from last spring's ABC romantic reality show "The Bachelorette," pose in this undated publicity photo.

## Sherrie Austin homesick for Australia

**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)**—Country singer Sherrie Austin has lived in Nashville for 10 years, but said she still gets homesick for her native Australia.

"Sometimes it can be a little isolated over here. I mean, it's really hard to kind of find out what's happening back in Australia," she said in a recent

AP Radio interview.

Austin, 32, said she still meets Americans who think Australia is a wild country where people are being eaten by sharks and crocodiles.

"Well, we know it's not really like that," she said. "We do have koalas and kangaroos and we do say 'creeky.' I say it all the time.

That's what makes people want to go and visit the place. That really is part of Australia, the wildlife and the people."

But, she adds, "There is a charm about it just like there is a charm to this country that's very individual to America."

Austin's current single is "Streets of Heaven."

## Clinton didn't have time for '60 Minutes'

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Those "60 Minutes" debates between former President Clinton and Bob Dole failed partly because Clinton was writing a book and didn't have time to concentrate on the show, the program's executive producer says.

Announced with much fanfare last spring, the Clinton-Dole mini debates lasted only 10 episodes. They brought little ratings buzz to the CBS newsmagazine and were considered boring by many TV critics.

"It didn't work because Bill Clinton is so involved in writing his book he never could give us the time," said Don Hewitt, "60 Minutes" founder, who is stepping down as executive producer in May after 35 years.

Dole wasn't as good a TV performer as Clinton, but "he was ready to give us as much time as we needed because he didn't have anything to do," Hewitt said.

"You can't be a success on '60 Minutes' unless '60 Minutes' is the number one thing on your mind," Hewitt said.



# Pastimes

**WONDERWORD**  
By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BEDROOM FURNISHINGS

Solution: 7 letters

R D S N A F E J R L T N I A P  
P E R F U M E C I F F O R R S  
I S T T C W U G A T E I O A E  
L K O R E E H U H P R S N D V  
L N C L O T I Y C L S I U I L  
O A R L S F D L E A P V K O E  
W Y M O E U M T I U V E R S H  
S C F P T A I O M N E L E I S  
N A P S B U N Y C D G E S L T  
I N U T S O P S O R N T S C S  
A D T N E V Y O R Y U H E L E  
T L E V R T R S K O O B R O H  
R E A S D N I L B E L I D C C  
U S M R A L A M S O G W A K E  
C O V E R R S E O E R E T S

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Alarm, Blinds, Books, Boys, Candles, Ceiling, Chair, Chest, Clean, Clock, Comforter, Cover, Curtain, Desk, Door, Dresser, Dust, Ensuite, Fans, Futon, Girls, House, Iron, Jewelry, Lamp, Laundry, Light, Lounge, Naps, Office, Paint, Perfume, Pillows, Post, Radio, Save, Shelves, Shoes, Skirt, Sleep, Sofa, Space, Stereo, Study, Television, Time, Toys, Vacuum, Vent, Wake.  
Yesterday's Answer: Oak Tree  
To order the new WONDERWORD TREASURY 2: "Memorable Occasions," send check or money order for \$10.95 plus \$2.25 postage and handling \$14.20 total to Universal Press Syndicate, Attn: Wonderword, 4020 Main St., Kansas City, Mo. 64111 or call toll-free, 1-800-255-8734, ext. 8613.

**CROSSWORD** By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
1 "Fargo" actor  
5 Retiring  
8 In such a manner  
12 Field parcel  
13 Itty-bitty  
14 Symbol of Ireland  
15 Stage star  
17 "— quam videri" (N.C. motto)  
18 Chop  
19 Tackle's teammate  
20 "Poppy-cock!"  
21 Play-ground game  
22 Royal insomnia cause  
23 Skirmish  
26 Habitue  
30 Wile E.'s supplier  
31 Nail with a ray gun  
32 React to yeast  
33 The Beatles, e.g.  
35 Betrayer  
36 A billion years

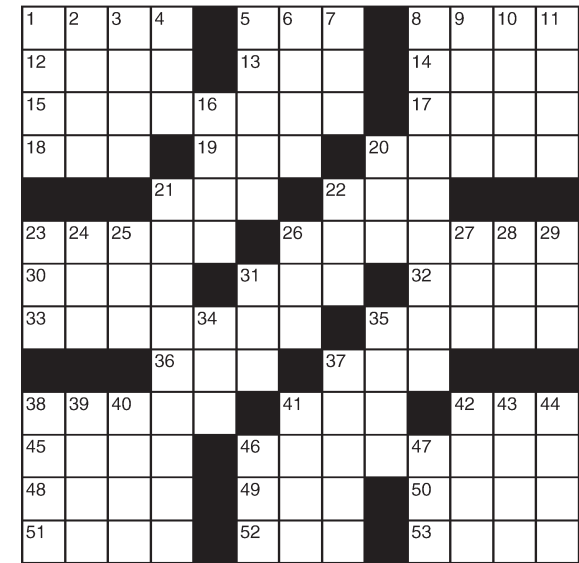
**DOWN**  
37 Clear the tables  
38 Elevator channel  
41 Anti-quoted  
42 Be a 15-Across  
45 Jam ingredient?  
46 Speculate  
48 Composer  
49 North Sea feeder  
50 Algerian port  
51 Nitwit  
52 Fool  
53 Polar explorer

**DOWN**  
1 Numbers racket?  
2 Longing

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

B	M	W		A	R	M		L	A	I	D
R	E	E	L		B	O	A		A	X	L
A	N	D	A		C	O	D		T	E	L
G	U	S	T	O		M	A	G	I		
				I	A	M			M	A	N
B	L	A	N	K	E	T		S	Q	U	I
A	I	D	A		G	O	D		U	R	A
S	E	E	M	S		W	O	M	A	N	L
T	U	N	E	U	P		E	R			
				R	E	A	D		S	T	O
W	A	D	I		N	O	T		E	V	E
E	P	I	C		E	M			R	A	N
E	T	N	A		L	E	G		L	O	O

**Yesterday's answer 1-13**



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY**  
Orlando Bloom, Stephen Hendry, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Richard Moll

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Don't take on what you can't handle. Concentrate on whatever will bring you the most gains and leave everything else to others. You will need discipline and dedication to reach the success you are looking for. Reevaluate your plans to ensure that you aren't trying to do the impossible. Your numbers are 3, 15, 20, 24, 33, 42

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**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)  
Don't let your anger get the better of you today. Figure out what you can accomplish that will result in personal satisfaction. This is a day to get things done. ★★

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
You'll be on a roll today and should be able to finish what you start. Creative ideas will result in all sorts of interesting projects. Love is apparent. ★★★★★

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
Proceed with caution. You may end up in an argument with someone you live with if you are too candid. Push any talks back until late in the day if you want to get good results. ★★

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
Listen to what everyone around you is saying. You will discover all sorts of interesting information. Catch up on correspondence. A relationship can flourish. ★★★★★

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
Learn from your experiences, especially where money matters were concerned. You can make a huge difference to your financial future if you follow a direction that you have always longed to pursue. ★★

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
A partnership could turn sour if you refuse to compromise. You may want to scale down the number of projects you work on. It's better to do less really well than to try to do too much and do it poorly. ★★

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
If you are swift to make your move and you can stop procrastinating, you shall overcome. Moneymaking deals could easily shape the future of the year ahead. Reluctance will be the enemy. ★★

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
Someone is likely to rock your world today. Relationships will develop into something magical, intense and passionate. Open discussions will seal a deal. ★★★★★

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
Embellishing information will lead to more trouble than what it's worth. Stick to the truth. Fabrication will only come back to haunt you and make you look bad. ★★

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
Get a grip on what it is you are trying to do and push it through as quickly as possible. Disagreements will escalate later and you need to get on with your own personal agenda. ★★★★★

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
Stay in the loop and talk your way through any problems that arise and you will be able to solve any problems that you or family members face. Changes in your home will be favorable. ★★

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
If you are feeling under the weather, take time out to rejuvenate. You can start a business partnership with someone who can add value to a project you are working on. Take care of your health. ★★

**BIRTHDAY BABY:** You are very caring and sensitive to the needs of others. You give all to those you care about. Your desire to reform whatever isn't working will bring you great satisfaction and positive change.

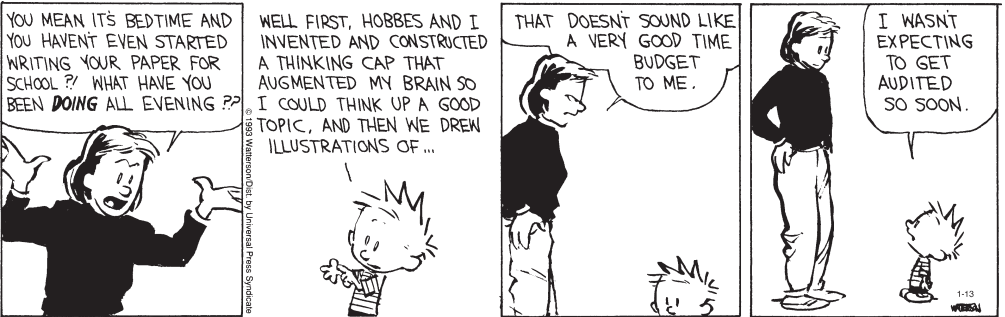
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## Ziggy®



## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Watterson



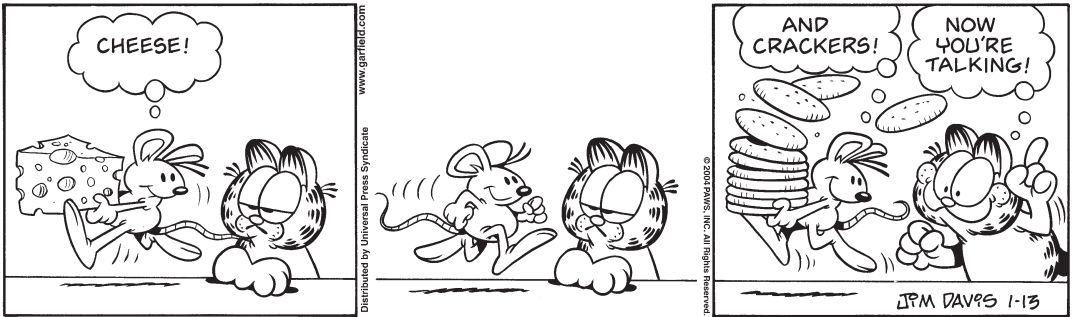
## Adam@home

By Brian Basset



## Garfield®

by Jim Davis



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy







# Perry leads Memorial going into final

By **DOUG FERGUSON**  
AP GOLF WRITER



**DUBLIN, Ohio (AP)** — Another brutal Saturday at Muirfield - in Ohio, not Scotland - was too much for Tiger Woods.

But not for Kenny Perry. Despite cold, whipping winds and the toughest weekend conditions at Muirfield Village in almost 20 years, Perry made only one bogey in a round of 2-under 70 and led Lee Janzen by two shots going into the final round. “That’s probably better than the 61 I shot last week,” Perry said. “The conditions were brutal. It was raw out there.”

Perry, coming off a victory at Colonial with a record score, again ended a solid round with a birdie on the 18th. His approach ran up the ridge, then trickled down the slope to 8 feet.

He was at 13-under 203. Woods, meanwhile, struggled with his swing and the gusts up to 30 mph made it look even worse. He hit a tee shot out of bounds for triple bogey and played the front nine in 42. He had to play the final four holes in 2 under to shoot 76.

It was his worst round ever at Memorial, where he is the only three-time winner, and at times it was reminiscent of his 81 in the third round of the British Open last year at Muirfield - with one exception.

“It’s a hell of a lot warmer here,” Woods said.

He wound up 11 strokes out of the lead - just like at Muirfield last summer - and no chance to catch the golf’s hottest players.

That’s not the case for a few others. Janzen, winless since his second U.S. Open title five years ago, holed two bunkers shots on the back nine - for birdie on No. 15 and for par on the No.



Kenny Perry, of Franklin, Ky., watches his tee shot on the par-5 fifth hole during the third round of the Memorial Tournament Saturday May 31, 2003 in Dublin, Ohio. Perry parred the hole.

17 - and had a 71 that left him at 11-under 202.

“I just wanted to hang in there,” Janzen said. “Regardless of what I shot, I just wanted to enjoy the day - kind of silly to enjoy a day like today - but enjoy that I play golf and I was near the lead.”

No one had a more enjoyable day than Jose Maria Olazabal. His bogey-free 66 was more than nine strokes better than the average score Saturday. That shot him up from a tie for 30th into a tie for third, along with Vijay Singh and Retief Goosen at 8-under 208.

Singh had a 72, while Goosen had three bogeys on the back nine for a 74.

Olazabal was the only player to break 70, and only 11 players broke par.

About two hours before the leaders teed off, the third round was halted for 46 minutes as a storm system passed. Left behind was the nastiest weather of

the year on the PGA Tour, with temperatures in the low 50s and gusts that spell trouble along the tree-lined fairways of Muirfield Village.

“It’s hard to judge where the wind is coming from,” Woods said. “The thing that’s hard is to get committed over a shot.”

That was evident on the first fairway. Woods held his pose and followed the flight of the ball until it landed 25 yards short of the green. He looked at the treetops in frustration, trying to figure out the swirling wind, then tossed his club at the bag.

It would get a lot worse, especially on No. 6 when Woods pulled his tee shot through the trees, into a backyard and out of bounds by about 2 feet. He walked all the way up to his ball before being told it was not in play, then had to return to the tee.

He wound up with a triple bogey

and made the turn in 42.

Woods couldn’t turn anywhere for sympathy. Eleven players shot 80 or worse, the highest number on the weekend ever at the Memorial.

John Daly drove the 343-yard 14th hole for the third straight day, and this time got a birdie. He also had two triple bogeys and a quadruple bogey for an 83.

“It’s a survival course more than anything out there,” Ernie Els said after his 70. “It’s pretty

punishing. It’s the hardest day we’ve had on the tour to date.”

That’s what made Olazabal’s round so brilliant.

The field average was 75.5, the highest for a weekend round since 1981 at Muirfield Village, and Olazabal made it look like he was at the Bob Hope Classic.

“It’s as good a round as I’ve seen in a long time,” said Jeff Sluman, his playing partner. “I’m not unhappy with my 72, but after looking at Ollie’s round, it felt like a million.”

Ohio tends to bring out the best in Olazabal. He shot a 61 up the road at Firestone in 1990 when he won the World Series of Golf, and took just as much pleasure out of this 66.

“Here, it’s a different story,” Olazabal said. “To shoot 66, I think it’s really close to that 61.”

It got him a lot closer to the lead,

# San Diego Padres nip Diamondbacks, 8-7



**SAN DIEGO (AP)** — Pinch-hitter Lou Merloni drove in the go-ahead run in San Diego’s two-run eighth inning with a sacrifice fly, lifting the Padres to an 8-7 win over the Arizona Diamondbacks on Saturday night.

Merloni’s sacrifice fly off Oscar Villarreal, Arizona’s third pitcher in the inning, gave San Diego just its sixth win in 33 games. The Padres went 5-24 in May, their worst month in team history.

Mark Loretta’s pinch-hit single of Mike Myers scored Gary Matthews Jr., who singled off Scott Service (0-1), tied it at 7-all.

Luis Gonzalez drove in four runs for Arizona and Alex Cintron went 3-for-4, including a two-run double in the top of the eighth inning. Cintron had two doubles and a triple.

Trailing 6-4 in the eighth inning, Arizona rebounded with back-to-back doubles by Matt Williams and Cintron off Jesse Orosco (1-1).

Matt Herges pitched the ninth for his second saves in three opportunities.

The Diamondbacks’ rally started off Luther Hackman, who hit Junior Spivey



San Diego Padres’ Rondell White is tagged out by Arizona Diamondbacks catcher Rod Barajas after he tried to score from third on a flyball to left in seventh inning of their game Saturday night, May 31, 2003, in San Diego. Umpire Phil Cuzzi makes the call.

leading off the eighth. Mark Grace’s one-out single knocked out Hackman.

Williams, pinch-hitting for Tony Womack, doubled into the left-field corner off Orosco, scoring Spivey and cutting the lead to 6-5. Cintron then ripped a double into the left-center field gap to put Arizona ahead.

Gonzalez hit a two-run homer in the

first inning and threw out a runner at home plate.

Ryan Klesko homered and drove in two runs for the Padres, who scored five runs in the first after Arizona went up 2-0.

Klesko contributed an RBI single in the first, and hit his 10th home run of the season, a solo shot with two

outs, to put San Diego ahead 6-2 in the third inning.

Bennett’s two-run single capped the five-run first inning off Arizona starter Elmer Dessens when the Padres amassed a season-high seven hits. Xavier Nady and Matthews Jr. also drove in a run apiece.

Dessens settled down after the rough first inning. The right-hander allowed one run on four hits over the next four innings. Dessens finished by allowing six runs and 11 hits in five innings.

Gonzalez hit a two-run homer, his 11th, in the first inning off Adam Eaton, and cut the San Diego lead to 6-3 in the third with a run-scoring double that scored Cintron, who doubled.

After Eaton walked the first two batters in the fifth, Gonzalez added an RBI single. The Diamondbacks loaded the bases with a two-out walk to Lyle Overbay, but Eaton escaped further damage when he induced Spivey to ground out.

Gonzalez prevented the Padres from adding to their lead when he caught Nady’s fly ball in left-field foul territory and threw out Rondell White on a three-hop throw to catcher Rod Barajas.

but still needing five shots to catch the guy on top.

Perry has been practically flawless the last two weeks, no matter the tournament, the course or the condition he faces.

“My goal today was to make 18 pars,” Perry said. “I parred the first nine and said, ‘Man, I might do this.’”

A birdie on the par-3 12th over water ruined that, and another birdie on the 14th almost turned the Memorial into a runaway. But Janzen stayed on his heels, and Perry made his first bogey in 50 holes.

“It seems like things are going my way,” Perry said. “I make the putts when I need to I get the good breaks, but I’m executing my shots.”

MLB STANDINGS				
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
Team	W	L	Pct	G
N.Y. Yankees	32	23	.582	-
Boston	31	23	.574	1½
Toronto	31	26	.544	2
Baltimore	27	27	.500	4½
Tampa Bay	21	33	.389	10½
Central Division				
Minnesota	31	23	.574	-
Kansas City	27	26	.509	3½
Chi. White Sox	25	29	.463	6
Cleveland	21	32	.396	9½
Detroit	14	39	.264	16½
West Division				
Seattle	36	18	.667	-
Oakland	31	23	.574	5
Anaheim	26	27	.491	9½
Texas	25	29	.463	11
Yesterday's Games				
Detroit 4, N.Y. Yankees 2				
Chicago White Sox at Cleveland, ppd, rain				
Oakland 7, Kansas City 6				
Toronto 10, Boston 7				
Seattle 5, Minnesota 2				
Anaheim 6, Tampa Bay 1				
Baltimore 7, Texas 1				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
Atlanta	37	18	.673	-
Montreal	33	22	.600	4
Philadelphia	29	25	.537	7½
Florida	26	31	.456	12
N.Y. Mets	25	30	.455	12
Central Division				
Chi. Cubs	30	24	.556	-
Houston	29	27	.518	2
St. Louis	27	27	.500	3
Cincinnati	26	29	.473	4½
Pittsburgh	24	30	.444	6
Milwaukee	21	34	.382	9½
West Division				
San Francisco	34	20	.630	-
Los Angeles	31	24	.564	3½
Colorado	27	29	.482	8
Arizona	25	30	.455	9½
San Diego	16	40	.286	19
Yesterday's Games				
N.Y. Mets 4, Atlanta 2				
Chicago Cubs 1, Houston 0, 16 innings				
Pittsburgh 4, St. Louis 3				
Florida 3, Cincinnati 2				
Montreal at Philadelphia, ppd, rain				
San Diego 8, Arizona 7				
Los Angeles 3, Milwaukee 0				
San Francisco 2, Colorado 1				



# Mighty Ducks top Devils 3-2 in OT

By ALAN ROBINSON  
AP SPORTS WRITER

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)— Martin Brodeur showed he's not perfect, but the Anaheim Mighty Ducks still are in playoff overtime—and that's why they're still alive in the Stanley Cup finals.

Ruslan Salei scored off Adam Oates' faceoff win at 6:59 into overtime and the Mighty Ducks, taking advantage of one of the biggest misplays of Brodeur's career, beat the New Jersey Devils 3-2 in Game 3 Saturday night.

Oates fed the puck off the faceoff to Salei at the top of the slot, and Brodeur barely reacted to his one-timer as the Mighty Ducks improved to 6-0 in playoff overtimes. The Devils are 2-2.

It was essentially a must-win game for the Ducks, who played with the desperation expected of a team that trailed 2-0 in the series and almost certainly would have had no chance to raise the cup had it lost.

Ducks coach Mike Babcock joked that Salei is one of his hardest shooters, if not the most accurate.

"He can really shoot the puck. We always tell him shoot the puck on net once in a while," Babcock said. "He bangs the puck off the glass with the best of them."

Salei said the faceoff win was so clean, "You've got to shoot. So far, it's the biggest goal I've ever scored. We had to win this game. We had to get some momentum going. Now maybe it will go seven games, or six."



AP  
New Jersey Devils' Scott Gomez, left, is congratulated by teammate Patrik Elias following his third period goal against the Anaheim Mighty Ducks in Game 3 of the Stanley Cup Finals in Anaheim, Calif., Saturday, May 31, 2003. Elias had an assist on the play.

Salei's goal was his second of the playoffs.

Game 4 will be Monday night, when the Devils can either take a commanding 3-1 lead or the Mighty Ducks will tie a series they seemed out of following two dominating Devils wins in New Jersey.

Overtime playoff wins have largely been responsible for Anaheim's remarkable playoff run, which began with three consecutive series-opening overtime victories.

Goalie Jean-Sebastien Giguere has been unbeatable in overtime, with an NHL-record overtime scoreless streak of 166 minutes, 4 seconds. He broke Patrick Roy's record of 162:56 early in the overtime.

Giguere turned aside 29 of 31 shots in by far his best game of the finals.

The Devils trailed 2-1 in the second after Brodeur lost his stick and couldn't defend Sandis Ozolinsh's seemingly harmless shot as it trickled in from the blue line.

"It happens to the best of the goaltenders," Devils coach Pat Burns said. "You don't think Patrick Roy ever made a play like that? It's not the end of the world. You're going to fault the goaltender for that? I'm not."

Babcock said the misplay gave the Ducks a huge lift.

"I thought that was the break we needed," he said.

But the Devils tied it at 2 when Scott Gomez deflected Grant Marshall's wrist from above the right circle past Giguere at 9:11 of the third. Gomez has two goals in the finals after

scoring only once in 16 games.

That might have won it had Brodeur not made a grievous mistake on a play that couldn't have been more routine.

Only 45 seconds after the Devils' Patrik Elias tied it at 1, Giguere fed the puck up ice to Ozolinsh who, draped by two Devils, pushed it toward the net.

Brodeur, positioned at the left of the crease, began to scramble over to play the puck, only to drop his stick. With Brodeur unable to defend, the puck trickled into the side of the net as the goalie dropped to his knees, raising his hand to his head in disbelief.

It was a perfectly awful play by the goalie who was near perfect for the first seven periods of the series.

"Obviously, they got breaks and that's what it's all about. They got them and we didn't get them," Burns said. "We had a great chance tonight (to go up 3-0). But it came down to errors and mistakes, like every hockey game does."

The maddening misplay at 14:47 of the second came slightly more than 11 minutes after Ozolinsh set up Anaheim's first goal of the series, by the infrequently used Marc Chouinard. That goal at 3:39 of the second ended Brodeur's scoreless streak of 143 minutes, 39 seconds, the second-longest to start the finals.

Ozolinsh shot the puck toward the net from along the boards, and it deflected off Chouinard's stick and past Brodeur to the glove side. The Devils scored the first goal in each of the first two games on their home ice, and the Ducks never challenged after that in either game.

## Larry Brown to coach Pistons, AP learns

By LARRY LAGE  
AP SPORTS WRITER



AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (AP) — Rick Carlisle sat elbow-to-elbow with the man who had just fired him, Joe Dumars. In a bizarre scene, talk turned to Larry Brown, who will become Detroit's next coach.

"If you think he's going to bring in a stiff behind me, you're nuts," Carlisle said Saturday. "He's going to bring in a big-time guy, and if he can do that he will have done his job."

Carlisle was fired with one year and \$2 million left on his contract despite winning two straight division titles, 100 regular-season games, a Coach of the Year award and leading the Pistons to the Eastern Conference finals for the first time since 1991.

He will be replaced by Brown, who has already reached agreement with the Pistons on a long-term deal, according to a source within the league with knowledge of the discussions between the Pistons and Brown. The source spoke to The Associated Press on condition of

anonymity, saying the hiring will become official on Monday.

Saturday's news conference was strange — Carlisle poking fun at himself during an opening statement, then initiating jokes and defending the decision when Dumars was pressed to explain the dismissal.

"The guy at the gate almost wouldn't let me in to my own firing," Carlisle said.

When Dumars said, "This is not a fun day at all," Carlisle quipped: "It's all right. You can have fun with it."

Brown resigned as coach of the Philadelphia 76ers on Monday after six seasons. The Sixers released him from a contractual clause that prohibited him from coaching another NBA team if he left Philadelphia prematurely.

Counting Detroit, there are eight NBA coaching vacancies.

When asked about Brown, Dumars said, "We'll be talking to him," adding that he has heard Brown's name linked to openings in Houston, Cleveland and Washington.

"This is not about Larry Brown, this is about Rick Carlisle," Dumars said.

Brown did not return two messages left by The AP at his home.

Philadelphia captain Eric

Snow understands why the Pistons are going after his former coach.

"With Rick Carlisle gone, it would be great for Detroit's organization if it was fortunate enough to get Larry Brown," Snow said. "He's a Hall of Famer who is a great coach and a great teacher that would make every one of their players better, and that would make the Pistons even better."

Carlisle, in his first head coaching job, helped turn Detroit from a lottery team into the top-seeded squad in the East this season. He was honored as NBA Coach of the Year for the 2001-02 season.

He led the Pistons to a 100-64 regular-season record and a 12-15 postseason mark over two years.

The Pistons' season ended May 24 when they were swept by New Jersey in the conference finals. Carlisle's coaching was publicly criticized during the first round when Detroit fell behind 3-1 against Orlando. But he turned to little-used Tayshaun Price and Mehmet Okur to generate some offense and help the Pistons advance.

"You can get into a conversation about what may or not be fair, or you can be excited about being at the peak of your career," Carlisle said. "I'll look

back and remember the good things and the things that were accomplished by a group that no one thought had a chance."

Carlisle was hired as Detroit's coach on May 25, 2001, after the team fired George Irvine following a 32-50 season. There was believed to be tension between Dumars and Carlisle, but both denied that was true Saturday.

Carlisle said he was unsure if he would pursue a coaching job right away or take a year off to be a television analyst.

"There was never any talk of an extension, there was none from me to Joe, or from them to me. I didn't feel that one was owed to me," Carlisle said. "I was ready to honor the last year of my contract and be judged after three years. That would've been fine."

Brown, 62, had two years left in his contract that paid him \$6 million per season in Philadelphia.

He also coached Denver (five years), Indiana (four years), San Antonio (3 1/2 years), New Jersey (two years), Carolina of the ABA (two years) and the Clippers (18 months).

Brown's tenure with the Sixers was his longest in his 31-year coaching career. He led the Sixers to the playoffs for five straight seasons, including the 2001 NBA Finals, and will coach



AP  
Philadelphia 76ers head coach Larry Brown directs his team in the first quarter in this April 15, 2003 photo, in Chicago against the Chicago Bulls. The Detroit Pistons fired coach Rick Carlisle and will hire Larry Brown, a source within the league said Saturday, May 31, 2003.

the U.S. men's national team this summer at an Olympic qualifying tournament in Puerto Rico.

He has a 879-685 record in the NBA, and 1,285-853 overall, including ABA and college. Brown won an NCAA championship with Kansas in 1988, and became the first coach to take six NBA teams to the playoffs when the 76ers made it in 1999.

Brown would inherit a

Pistons team that has the No. 2 pick in the June 26 draft. Detroit will likely select a scorer — Darko Milicic of Serbia or Syracuse's Carmelo Anthony — to complement a young nucleus of Richard Hamilton, Chauncey Billups, Ben Wallace and rookies Okur and Prince.

Brown's brother, Herb, was head coach of the Pistons from 1975-76 through 1977-78.







**Mobil blasts past PDI**  
Host Mobil Oil was armed and dangerous last Thursday as they gunned down Pacific Development Inc, 103-68, in the second day of competition in the Mobil Oil Invitational Basketball Tournament.

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Saipan Tribune  
**Sports**

**Arenas leads Warriors past Jazz, 108-95**

Gilbert Arenas scored 27 points and the Golden State Warriors beat the Utah Jazz 108-95 Saturday night to win for the fifth time in six games.

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